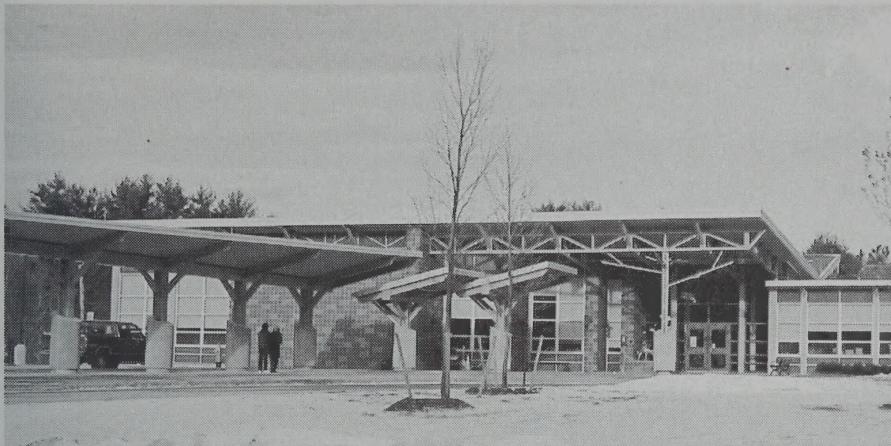
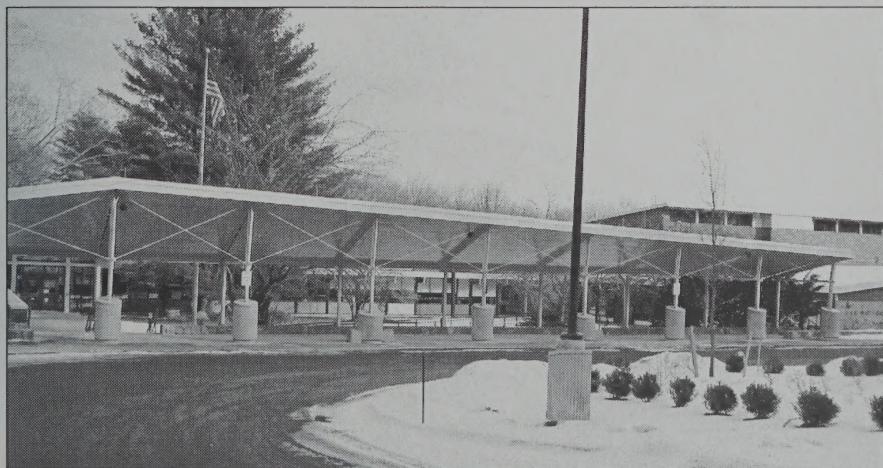


LOCAL HISTORY  
WESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
87 SCHOOL STREET  
WESTON, MA 02493-2541



**TOWN OF WESTON**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2003**



LOCAL HISTORY  
WESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
87 SCHOOL STREET  
WESTON, MA 02493-2541

# TOWN OF WESTON - DIRECTORY

## WESTON TOWN HALL

Town House Road, P. O. Box 378, Weston, MA 02493 (781) 893-7320

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

*All departments marked \* are located in Town Hall, Town House Road*

EMERGENCY 9-1-1  
AMBULANCE 9-1-1  
FIRE 9-1-1

Non-emergency  
(781) 893-2372 or (781) 893-2324

POISON INFORMATION 1-800-682-9211

POLICE 9-1-1  
Non-emergency (781) 893-4803  
NSTAR report Power Outage 1-800-592-2000  
KEYSPAN report Gas Leak 1-800-233-5325

\*\*\*\*\*

Animal Control (781) 893-4803  
*c/o Police Department*  
180 Boston Post Road By-Pass

Board of Appeals\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 322  
FAX: (781) 529-0112

Board of Assessors\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 312  
FAX (781) 529-0106

Assistant Town Manager\*  
(781) 893-7320 ext. 306  
FAX: (781) 891-3697

Brook School Apartments (781) 893-7238  
44 School Street FAX: (call first) (781) 529-0144

Building Department\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 323  
FAX: (781) 529-0112  
8:30 -10 a.m. & 4 - 5 p.m., M-F

Cable TV Studio (781) 642-8508  
44 School Street

Cemetery Dept. DPW (781) 893-1263 ext 16  
FAX: (781) 899-5690  
190 Boston Post Road By-Pass (Route 20)

Conservation Commission\*  
(781) 893-7320 ext. 322  
FAX: (781) 529-0112

Council on Aging (781) 893-0154  
FAX: (781) 529-0142  
Weston Community Center, 20 Alphabet Lane

Dog Officer See Animal Control  
(781) 893-4803

Elderly Housing (781) 893-7238  
FAX: (call first) (781) 529-0144  
44 School Street

Emergency Management (781) 893-2323  
*c/o Fire Department*

Fire Department 911 or (781) 893-2323  
Other business (781) 893-2372  
394 Boston Post Road FAX (781) 893-1434

Board of Health\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 330  
FAX (781) 529-0105

Highway Division, DPW (781) 893-1263  
FAX: (781) 899-5690  
190 Boston Post Road By-Pass (Route 20)

Information Systems\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 325

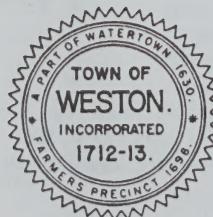
Library (781) 893-3312  
87 School Street FAX: (781) 529-0173  
Mon. & Fri.-10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Tues. & Thurs.-10 a.m. to 9 p.m.,  
Wed.-2 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sat.-10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sun.--2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Sept. - June only)

Mosquito Control, (781) 899-5730  
FAX: (781) 647-4988  
11 Sun St., Waltham 02453-4101

Parking Clerk\* (781) 893-7320 ext. 309  
M-W-F 9am-1 pm; Tu-Th 9 am - 3 pm.

Park & Cemetery Dept. DPW  
(781) 893-1263 ext 16  
FAX: (781) 899-5690  
190 Boston Post Road By-Pass (Route 20)

**REPORTS OF THE  
TOWN OFFICERS OF  
WESTON,  
MASSACHUSETTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 2003**



**Cover:** Renovated School Buildings: The Country School (top) and Woodland School. Photographs by Peter Kidwell of the Weston School Department.

Thanks are due to the following people for supplying the photographs that appear on the pages of this Annual Town Report:

- Members of the Board of Selectmen and Art Illman, photographer for the *Weston Town Crier* -- page 12;
- Nina Danforth of the Tree Advisory Group - pages 29; 52, and 54;
- Weston Historical Commission - page 30;
- Donna VanderClock, Assistant Town Manager and Director of Finance - pages 45 and 46;
- Kelly Wood of the Weston Library staff - page 68;
- Lucy Saunders of the Town Manager's Office - page 70;
- Peter Kidwell and other members of the Weston School Department - page 71
- Weston International Affiliation Committee - page 77;
- Christopher Fehl of the Weston School Department - page 84;
- Weston School Superintendent Alan Oliff and Jean-Louis Pironio of the *Rombas-Weston* International Affiliation Committee - page 85;
- Weston - Wayland Rotary Club - page 136.

*Printed by:*  
*Athol Press, Inc.*  
*Athol, Massachusetts*

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## CALENDAR\*

Board of Selectmen - Normally meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall

Call Selectmen's Office  
(781) 893-7320, ext. 308  
or email  
[zeytoonjian.l@westonmass.org](mailto:zeytoonjian.l@westonmass.org)

School Committee - Normally meets twice per month on Mondays at the Weston High School Library

Call School Info Line, (781) 529-8092  
Superintendent's Office, 529-8080  
or check [www.weston.org](http://www.weston.org)

Planning Board - Normally meets Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall

Call Planning Board Office,  
(781) 893-7320, ext. 321 or 323

Board of Health - Normally meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall

Call Board of Health,  
(781) 893-7320 ext 332  
or check [www.westonboh.org](http://www.westonboh.org)

Recreation Commission - Normally meets on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Call Recreation Department,  
(781) 529-0203

Board of Library Trustees - Normally meets the 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Library

Call Library (781) 893-331, ext. 228

Commissioners of Trust Funds - Meets on an as-needed basis, generally once per quarter, at Town Hall

Call Treasurer's Office  
(781) 893-7320 ext 315

Board of Assessors - Normally meets twice per month (more frequently from December-March) on Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. at Town Hall

Call Assessors' Office  
(781) 893-7320 ext. 312

Board of Appeals - Normally meets Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

Call Board of Appeals Office,  
(781) 893-7320, ext. 322 or 323

Conservation Commission - Normally meets Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

Call Conservation Commission Office,  
(781) 893-7320, ext. 322 or 323

Historical Commission - Normally meets Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall

Call Planning Board Office,  
(781) 893-7320, ext. 321 or 323

## LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

*(as of December 31, 2003)*

Senators in Congress

Edward M. Kennedy, Squaw Island, Barnstable  
John F. Kerry, Boston

Representative in Congress, Seventh Congressional District

Edward J. Markey, Malden

Councilor, Third District

Marilyn Petitto Devaney, Watertown

State Senator, Fifth Middlesex District

Susan C. Fargo, Lincoln

Representative in General Court,  
Fourteenth Norfolk District

Alice Hanlon Peich, Wellesley

*\*All schedules subject to change - Call offices listed*

## STATISTICS

	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-03</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-02</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-01</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-00</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-99</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-98</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-97</u>	<u>Year Ending 30-Jun-96</u>
Population (1)	11,200	11,110	11,388	11,555	11,055	11,103	10,911	10,704
Number of Voters (1)	6,939	7,697	7,162	7,317	7,190	7,128	7,455	7,173
Number of Dwelling Houses (2)	3,466	3,454	3,429	3,431	3,413	3,394	3,369	3,277
School Membership (3)	2,299	2,254	2,215	2,149	2,062	1,971	1,867	1,817
Valuation of Real Estate	\$ 4,278,223,200	\$ 3,549,228,700	\$ 2,519,704,300	\$ 2,472,873,200	\$ 2,426,304,400	\$ 2,006,045,900	\$ 1,964,218,100	\$ 1,932,566,800
Valuation of Personal Property	\$ 25,948,000	\$ 21,315,100	\$ 18,928,200	\$ 18,506,200	\$ 17,268,300	\$ 15,505,000	\$ 14,161,900	\$ 13,806,200
Total Assessed Valuation	\$ 4,304,171,200	\$ 3,570,543,800	\$ 2,538,632,500	\$ 2,491,379,400	\$ 2,443,572,700	\$ 2,021,550,900	\$ 1,978,380,000	\$ 1,946,373,000
Tax Rate per \$1,000 Valuation	\$ 10.15	\$ 10.14	\$ 12.92	\$ 11.97	\$ 11.73	\$ 13.37	\$ 12.94	\$ 12.58
Town Debt	\$ 52,252,851	\$ 47,800,838	\$ 43,639,762	\$ 27,350,016	\$ 10,921,270	\$ 12,175,000	\$ 13,745,000	\$ 15,520,000

(1) Population is as of January 1. The number of registered voters is as of December 31.

(2) Does not include 99 units in Jericho Village, 93 units at Norumbega Point, 62 units in Merriam Village and 52 units in Brook

School Apartments.

(3) School year ending June 30: average membership as of October 1 of the previous year.

## OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTON

*As of December 31, 2003*

### ELECTED BY THE VOTERS

	<u>Terms Expire</u>		<u>Terms Expire</u>
<b>Moderator</b>		<b>Planning Board</b>	
Robert M. Buchanan	2004	Alfred L. Aydelott, Chair	2004
<b>Board of Selectmen</b>		Kathryn J. Detwiler ( <i>deceased</i> )	2006
Harold Hestnes, Chair	2005	Lee C. Fernandez	2008
Douglas P. Gillespie	2004	Pamela W. Fox	2007
Joan B. Vernon	2006	David O. Mendelsohn <i>Elected to fill vacancy</i>	2005
<b>Town Clerk</b>		Susan Jane Zacharias*	2004
Mary Elizabeth Nolan	2004	<b>Board of Health</b>	
<b>Board of Assessors</b>		Marie Tobin, Chair	2005
Gary C. Koger, Chair	2006	Nicholas G. Guerina	2004
Michael Hoopes Harrity	2004	Peter K. Taylor	2006
Phyllis R. Kominz	2006	<b>Board of Library Trustees</b>	
Edward M. Michaud ( <i>resigned</i> )	2005	William D. Hartmann, Chair	2006
Alan T. Orth	2005	Barbara F. Coburn	2004
Susan L. Kannenberg*	2004	Charles (Tod) Foote	2006
<b>School Committee</b>		Robert J.T. Kulow	2005
Maureen S. Ecker, Chair	2004	Meredith B. Stevens	2004
Robert Anthony Nolan	2006	Pamela J. Wood	2005
Wendy Spector	2004	<b>Measurers of Lumber</b>	
Bella T. Wong ( <i>elected to fill vacancy</i> )	2005	David C. Bennett	2004
Maryanne R. Rogers	2006	Rosemary Boyle	2004
<b>Recreation Commission</b>		Barrett W. Gilchrist	2004
Gregory Czarnowski, Chair	2006	<b>Commissioners of Trust Funds</b>	
Ella Warren Merrill	2004	Charles M. Ganson, Jr., Chair	2005
Robert C. Millen Jr.	2006	James R. Nichols ( <i>resigned</i> )	2003
Ellen Pendergast	2005	S. Melvin Rines	2004
Julie S. Pemberton	2004	Thomas E. Bator	2006
James I. Rubens	2005		

\* *Appointed to fill vacancy by the Board together with the Board of Selectmen*

## OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN OR THE TOWN MANAGER\*

<b>Town Manager</b> Carl F. Valente	2005	<b>Director of Emergency Management</b> Edmund M. Walker	2005
<b>Assistant Town Manager &amp; Director of Finance &amp; Administration</b> Donna S. VanderClock	2004	<b>Inspector of Buildings and Wires &amp; Sealer of Weights and Measures</b> Courtney W. Atkinson	
<b>Human Resources Director</b> Lisa Yanakakis		<b>Veterans' Agent, Veterans' Services Director &amp; Veterans' Burial Agent</b> Ronald R. Benotti	
<b>Town Accountant</b> Patricia Fay ( <i>resigned</i> )		<b>Veterans' Grave Officer</b> David S. Johansen ( <i>resigned</i> )	
<b>Acting Town Accountant</b> Donna S. VanderClock		<b>Dog Officer and Pound Keeper</b> Robert F. Cronin	2004
<b>Town Counsel</b> Kopelman & Paige, P.C.		<b>Parking Clerk</b> Lucy K. Saunders	
<b>Treasurer &amp; Collector</b> David B. Okun		<b>Fence Viewers</b> John J. Havlicek Betsy Hestnes	
<b>Public Works Department, Director of Operations</b> Richard C. Nota		<b>Field Drivers</b> Sandra S. Gee Nancy S. Master	
<b>Town Engineer</b> Stephen R. Fogg		<b>Public Weighers</b> Walter Mulcahy Daniel Nourse John Place Kenneth C. Sutherland Kevin H. Whittemore	
<b>East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project, Commissioner</b> David S. Johansen ( <i>resigned</i> )		<b>Special Police Officers</b> Laurie A. Casale Richard Murray	
<b>Tree Warden</b> Paul L. Brackett			
<b>Chief of Police &amp; Keeper of Lockup</b> Steven F. Shaw (as of 1/1/04)      2006			
<b>Deputy Chief of Police</b> Roland W. Anderson			
<b>Chief of Fire Department &amp; Forest Warden</b> Edmund M. Walker	2005		

\* Where no term of office is indicated, the appointment is at the Pleasure of the Selectmen or the Town Manager.

**COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE AGENCIES  
APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Council on Aging**

Katherine Strehle, Chair	2004
Roger M. Burke ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )	2006
Calvin Cleveland ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )	2005
Milo Igersheimer ( <i>resigned</i> )	2007
Vivienne Kalman	2006
Eugenia N. Masland ( <i>resigned</i> )	2005
Irvinne Moran	2006
Joan M. Parrish	2005
Mercedes Primer	2006
Rev. Suzanne R. Spencer	2007
Joan Van Pelt	2007
<i>Vacancies -2</i>	

**Alcohol and Drug Education**

**Advisory Committee**

Judith M. L. Gaughan, Chair	2004
Laura Jenks-Daly ( <i>resigned</i> )	2004
Linda J. Perrin	2004

**Committee for Implementation of the  
Americans with Disabilities Act**

Paul J. Donahue, Jr.	2004
Miguel Gomez-Ibanez	2004
Marilyn N. Jacobs	2004

**Board of Appeals**

Robert P. Cook, Chair	2005
Wendy Kaplan Armour	2006
Peter Knight	2004

**Associate Members**

Winifred I. Li	2006
Marc Margulies	2005
Elizabeth H. Munro	2005

**Brook School Apartments Building  
Committee (est. 2003)**

William E. Cress, Chair	2004
Steven Charlip ( <i>ex officio</i> )	2004
Connie Davis <i>ex officio</i>	2004
Michael Harrity	2004
Jack Heine ( <i>ex officio</i> )	2004
Harris Levitt	2004
David Kane	2004

**Building Facilities Committee (est. 2003)**

Robert P. Lazzari, Jr., Chair	2006
H. Bentley Crouch	2006
Ann G. Leibowitz, Chair	2006
Blake E. Munson	2006

**Cable Advisory Committee**

Edwin E. Smith, Chair	2004
F. Douglas Garron	2004
Donald R. Shapiro	2004

**Representatives to the Cambridge  
Watershed Advisory Committee**

Ripley Hastings	2004
Mary Ann Pappanikou	2004

**Conservation Commission**

George P. Bates, Chair	2006
Brian Donahue	2006
Gustav Fleischmann, III	2004
Mary Ann Pappanikou	2004
David C. Phelan	2006
Janette Patel	2005
Marillyn Zacharis	2005

**Crescent Street Historic  
District Commission**

Alfred L. Aydelott, Chair	2006
George F. Amadon	2006
Catherine Adams Fiske	2004
Patricia Mansfield	2005
Anna Melone Pollock	2005

**Weston Cultural Council**

Deborah Knight, Chair	2004
Daniel J. Foote	2005
Audrey Foster	2004
Lynn R. Taff	2004
Shirley Jacobsen Wood	2005
Lynne S. Webber	2006

**DPW Review Committee (est. 2003)**

Robert Danforth
John A. Heine
Richard A. Murray

**Historical Commission**

Judith Markland, Chair	2004
Alfred L. Aydelott	2006
Louis Hruska ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )	2005
Diane G. Hubbard	2004
Andrew Marvel	2003
Samuel E. Payson ( <i>resigned</i> )	2005
Edward Rossiter ( <i>resigned</i> )	2005
Laura P. Sher	2006
<i>Vacancy (1)</i>	

**Housing Needs Committee**

(Appointed under Article 14 of Warrant for  
May 19, 1986, Annual Town Meeting)

L. Edward Lashman, Chair	2004
Richard D. Batchelder	2004
James Brenner	2004
Gene S. Castillo	2004
William H. Donnelly	2004
Joan Parrish	2004

**MBTA Advisory Board Rep.**

H. Bentley Crouch	2004
-------------------	------

**Trustees of the Merriam Fund**

Stephen E. Humphrey	2006
Ellen Pendergast	2004
Father Robert Tyrell ( <i>resigned</i> )	2005

**Metropolitan Area Planning Council Rep.**

Douglas P. Gillespie	2006
Richard A. Nota ( <i>TIP rep.</i> )	2004

**MetroWest Growth Management Committee**

Douglas P. Gillespie
----------------------

**MWRA Advisory Board Rep.**

Earl J. Forman	2004
----------------	------

**MWRA Town-wide Water Project Working Group**

Earl J. Forman, Chair
Robert Davis Brown
David N. Fixler
Julie D. Hyde
Kathleen B. McCahan
J. Thomas Selldorff
Edwin J. Taff
Andrew A. Tamoney
Jean M. Thurston
Ingeborg Uhlir
Richard C. Nota ( <i>Ex-officio</i> )

**Board of Registrars of Voters**

Carter M. Crawford, Rep., Chair	2006
Joseph W. Mullin, Dem.	2004
David M. Hutcheson	2005
The Town Clerk, <i>ex officio</i> ,	2004
M. Elizabeth Nolan	

**Committee on Safety and Flow of Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic**

Robert A. Mosher, Chair	2004
David P. Bell	2004
William J. McCarthy	2004
Denise W. Mosher	2004
Eugene C. Ritvo	2004
Joseph E. Williams, Jr.	2004

**Traffic Advisory Committee**

Lee Engler, Chair	2004
Frank Belvin	2004
Chantal Z. Buchanan ( <i>resigned</i> )	2004
Elizabeth K. Hayes	2004
Hugh J. Kelly	2004
Richard C. Nota ( <i>Ex Officio</i> )	2004
Marcia Pomerance*	2004
Lt. John J. Forti ( <i>Ex Officio</i> )	2004
Stephen R. Fogg ( <i>Ex Officio</i> )	2004
Lt. Steven Shaw (Alternate)	2004

**Traffic Island Committee (est. 2003)**

(To serve at the Pleasure of Selectmen)

Carol G. Hinckley, Convener
Diana Bonner
Cathy Dinardo
Helen Friedberg
Linda Lippincott
Dorothea Santos
Meg Steiner

**Tree Advisory Group**

Jonathan Bransfield	2004
Steve Cyr	2004
Nina Danforth	2004
Susan E. Dumaine	2004
J. Thomas Selldorff	2004
Paul L. Brackett ( <i>ex officio</i> )	2004
Richard C. Nota ( <i>non-voting member</i> )	2004

**Constable to Serve Civil Process**

Robert P. Millian, Jr.                  June 30, 2004

## APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

### **Finance Committee**

Stephen W. Ober, Co-Chair	2006
Jill McCarthy, Co-Chair	2005
James R. Beams	2004
Lisa Stover Bertelson	2006
Katharine D. Chace	2006
Jeri F. Cooper	2005
Edward K. Flynn	2004
Stephen Peacher	2004
Charles G. Pohl	2005

### **Weston Elderly Housing Committee**

*(Appointed under Article 19 of Warrant for May 9, 1977, Annual Town Meeting)*

John Heine, Chair	2006
Steven L. Charlip	2004
Marcy Dorna	2005
J. Matthew Gardiner	2006
Melvyn Lurie	2004

### **Library Building Committee**

*(Appointed under Article 6 of Warrant for October 19, 1987, Special Town Meeting)*

John J. Doyle, Jr., Chair

Lynn T. Brountas

Arria Sands

### **Memorial Day Committee**

Beverly Dillaway, Chair

### **Member Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School Committee**

Mary Elizabeth Shaw

*Term to expire June 30, 2005*

### **Weston International Affiliation Committee**

<i>Residents and Parents of Weston High School Students:</i>	
Emily L. Hutcheson, Chair	2005
Susan Coppock	2005
Tania Deary	2004
Hitsako Johnson	2004
Semina Karasch	2004
Barbara Mitchell	2005
Henriette Power	2006
Pamela Riffin	2005
Yvonne Sieber	2006
Ellen Touart-Grob	2006

#### *School Staff:*

Kristina Christofoli	2004
James Smith	2004
Joseph Verovshek	2004
<i>Students:</i>	
Caitlin Bowen	2004
Elizabeth Callow	2004
Carissa Couper	2004
Daniela Forte	2004
Dylan Wood	2004

### **Weston War Memorial Education Fund Committee**

*(Appointed under Article 13 of Warrant for March 23, 1953, Annual Town Meeting)*

Robert C. Millen, Jr., Chair	2008
Hugh W. Chandler	2005
Donald E. Pierson	2007
Claude Valle, III	2004
Eileen M. Watson ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )	2006

## APPOINTED BY OTHER AUTHORITIES

### **By the Town Clerk**

#### **Assistant Town Clerk**

J. Ward Carter	2004
----------------	------

### **By the Board of Health**

#### **Inspector of Animals**

Paula B. Nicholas

Joan B. Vernon

### **Agents to Issue Burial Permits**

Sharon Bonica

Wendy Diotalevi, R.S. **Health Director**

Nick Guerina, M.D., PhD

Beth Koch, **Health Agent**

M. Elizabeth Nolan

Peter Taylor, PE

Marie Tobin, R.N., MS

Lisbeth C. Zeytoonian

### **Health Director**

Wendy Diotalevi

**By the Historical Commission**  
**Josiah Smith Tavern Committee**  
**(est. 2003)**

Al Aydelott	2004
Sharon Dornbush	2005
John Sallay	2004
Dennis Saylor	2006
Henry Stone	2006

**By The Recreation Commission**  
**Community Center Building Committee**

Stephen J. Laroque, Chair
Charles E. Dolberg
Harris Levitt
Ella (Winky) Merrill
Laurence Nickerson
James I. Rubens
Katherine H. Strehle

**By the Building Inspector**  
**Deputy Inspectors of Buildings**

J. Russell Leonard
Earl Midgley

**Inspector of Wires**  
Oscar LeBlanc

**Deputy Inspector of Wires**  
Timothy Kelly  
Leo Landry

**Inspector of Plumbing and Gas**  
Edward F. Perilli

**Deputy Inspector of Plumbing and Gas**  
George Lessard  
Robert Hauptman

**Community Preservation Committee**  
*Terms expire 2004*

*Member*

J. Ward Carter
Dexter Freeman
Kathleen McCahan
Robin Reisman, Chair
Imogene Fish ( <i>resigned</i> )
Brian Donahue ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )
Edward Rossiter ( <i>resigned</i> )
Laura Scher ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )
Joseph W. Mullin ( <i>resigned</i> )
Richard D. Batchelder, Jr. ( <i>to fill vacancy</i> )
Pamela Fox
Louisa Birch

*Appointed by:*

Moderator
Moderator
Moderator
Moderator
Conservation Commission
Conservation Commission
Historical Commission
Historical Commission
Housing Needs Committee
Housing Needs Committee
Planning Board
Board of Selectmen



*Harold Hestnes  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen*

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**



*Douglas P. Gillespie  
Selectman*



*Joan B. Vernon  
Selectman*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Douglas P. Gillespie, Ripley E. Hastings, and Harold Hestnes served as the Board of Selectmen conducting the business of the town for the year 2003. At the Annual Town Election in May, Joan B. Vernon was elected to office, replacing Mr. Hastings who chose not to run. At the organizational meeting after Town Meeting, Mr. Hestnes was elected Chairman, and Mrs. Vernon was elected Secretary of the Board.

The Board met generally the second and fourth Tuesday at Weston Town Hall. These meetings were supplemented with additional meetings at posted times and locations, in order to address numerous issues facing the Town of Weston.

The following report will highlight several focus areas that the Board of Selectmen devoted time and resources to during the past year. Minutes of meetings of the Board are on file and available in the Selectmen's office and are posted on the Town's website.

### ***Fiscal Management***

Fiscal issues dominated the agenda for much of the year. This was on account of many factors, including the State government's worsening financial condition which resulted in a significant decrease in State aid from its previous level, and the generally poor economic climate which resulted in only very modest increases in local receipts. Faced with a choice of seeking an override of the constraints of Proposition 2½ and instituting reductions in service, it was determined that the latter course would be followed, so long as core services to the town could be protected and maintained. This required, among other things, implementation of organizational and operating adjustments and fee increases throughout all departments, limited program reductions in Recreation and Library, and the imposition of student activity fees in the Schools. Consistent with the character of the Town, no opportunity for revenue enhancement was disregarded: the Board of Selectmen entered into an agreement with AT&T to lease space at the Police Station for the erection of a flagpole-type cell tower, and a silent auction of retired street signs and Town Hall furnishings that were no longer needed was conducted.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May, Town Meeting approved the general and enterprise fund operating budgets for fiscal year 2004 as shown below. The general fund operating budget increase of \$1,155,702, or 2.7 percent, was the smallest percentage increase in a decade.

	<b>(Restated)</b>			
	<b>FY 03</b>	<b>FY 04</b>	<b>Increase</b>	
General Fund Operating Budget	42,125,862	43,821,564	1,555,702	2.7%
Recreation Department (Enterprise)	1,145,917	1,095,327	(50,950)	-4.4%
Water Division, DPW (Enterprise)	1,395,785	1,608,401	212,616	15.2%
Total Town Budget	44,667,564	45,985,292	1,317,728	3.0%

School expenditures, comprising about 55% of the total operating budget, accounted for nearly 35% of the total increase. These increases were attributable, generally, to enrollment increases, special education costs, salary increases under collective bargaining agreements, and other school-related expenses. The cost of insurance premiums relating to benefit plans for all Town employees (group health, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, etc.) continued to escalate sharply, and represented \$1,032,412, or 89 percent, of the total increase. Of this increase, \$767,593 is for health insurance alone, a 15.7% increase over last year, based on the Town employees' claims history for the prior 24 months. Mandatory contributions to the Middlesex Retirement System increased by \$224,000, largely reflective of the change in the stock market

which has impacted its assets. The insurance premiums relating to the Town's general liability coverage increased by \$27,675, or 10%, generally on account of higher property premiums due to the substantial losses in the insurance industry following the September 11 terrorist attacks, and on increasing building values as a result of the new Community Center, renovated Town Hall, and new or renovated schools. To fund this budget, the voters approved drawing \$2,027,778 from various cash reserves, this being justified by the Town's conservative municipal accounting practices that produced a robust so-called Free Cash account.

Total debt service for fiscal 2004 is approximately \$6.04 million, which represents an increase of about \$345,000, or about 6% from fiscal year 2003.

In addition to additional revenues from fees, the Town's cash reserves will be enhanced, beginning January, 2004, by additional real estate tax revenues as a result of Town Meeting voting in May to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 2A (a). In essence, this new provision enables the Town to reflect new construction on its tax rolls a fiscal year earlier than before. The uncertainties and costs associated with the town wide revaluation conducted in 2001 appear to be for the most part under control, thanks to the efforts of an expanded Board of Assessors. At the same time, it was noted mid-year that building permit activity was at its lowest since fiscal year 2000, suggesting that for the immediate future, there may be decreasing opportunity to look to new growth to fund the Town's operating budget.

The combined effect of increased property values and spending constraints and reductions was a property tax rate for fiscal year 2004 of \$9.67 per \$1,000 of valuation, down from \$10.15 for fiscal year 2003 and the lowest tax rate in the last five years.

#### *Town Administration*

In accordance with the plan submitted by Carl F. Valente, Town Manager and approved by the Board of Selectmen in 2002, Donna VanderClock was promoted to the position of Assistant Town Manager/Director of Finance and Administration. Lisa Yanakakis was hired as the Town's Human Resources Director, completing the three-person flexible management team as originally envisioned.

By mid-year, Weston's first town website was up and running at [www.weston.org](http://www.weston.org), and is proving to be an invaluable asset to ongoing Town communications as well as a resource for information about the town itself.

#### *Town Infrastructure*

Construction was essentially completed at the Country School and the Woodland School. The much-needed sand and salt storage shed for the Department of Public Works was also constructed. However, related concerns about the site work and drainage, and especially about the noise associated with operation of the shed, have not entirely been addressed to the full satisfaction of the Board of Selectmen and the immediate neighbors and are the subject of continuing discussion. Several town buildings, notably the Police Station, both Fire Stations, and the library are experiencing leaky roofs, and with the Board of Selectmen's approval, an engineering firm was engaged to evaluate the problems and help define the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions. Although sorely needed, the Board of Selectmen deferred consideration of a new facility for the Department of Public Works.

The Board of Selectmen appointed a committee to make recommendations concerning an appropriate use for the Josiah Smith Tavern and barn, a facility much loved in the town but expensive to maintain.

Recognizing that many of the structural problems facing the Town may be the result of imprudently deferred maintenance, the Board of Selectmen appointed a Building Facilities Committee

to address short- and long-term building maintenance throughout all buildings in the Town, and to make recommendations regarding how, and on what sort of schedule, it should be addressed.

An engineering analysis of the former Weston landfill revealed that methane gas was being produced by the decaying material and may be migrating off of the site. It is therefore unfortunately necessary to install a methane gas collection system. In November 2003, the Selectmen approved the first phase of this work at a cost of approximately \$375,000. Phase 2, should it be necessary, is estimated to cost \$625,000.

#### *Affordable Housing and Elderly Affairs*

Construction is well underway for the expansion to the Brook School Housing, which when complete will provide an additional twenty three elderly and handicapped units. It is hoped that occupancy in these new units will be available before the end of 2004.

The Board of Selectmen proposed, and Town Meeting voted in favor of, a Home Rule Petition which will expand the property tax deferral qualifications beyond those currently provided in State law, notably by reducing the qualifying age from 65 to 60, and by permitting income limits higher than \$40,000 provided the higher limits are established by the Board of Selectmen and ratified by Town Meeting. These expanded qualifications would apply to anyone who has owned and occupied property in Weston for at least five years.

A policy was established for waiving the fee for transfer station stickers for families in Weston who meet specified low income guidelines.

#### *Development Projects*

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed by the Town of Weston and Rivers School in connection with the school's new athletic facility. Traffic and parking issues are addressed, and funds are provided to the Town for mitigation; specific time limits are set for use of the facility by the school as well as accountability for noise, vandalism, rubbish removal, and other attending matters. The MOA provides for use of the ice rink by the Weston Recreation Department at certain hours when it is not in use by the school, and that it cannot be leased for commercial use or to any for-profit organization.

The MWRA Metro-West Water Supply Tunnel and Norumbega Storage Tank projects are nearing completion with relatively little complaint. While no construction has actually begun at the current Mass. Broken Stone quarry site off Route 20 and Route 128 which the Town had previously approved, the Board of Selectmen continues to monitor this project closely.

#### *Land Acquisition and Use*

At the urging of the Finance Committee, at May Town Meeting the voters were given an opportunity to endorse or reduce the 3% property tax surcharge previously approved for the Community Preservation Act. The Board of Selectmen took the positive response of the voters as strong guidance and direction that even in the face of current economic pressures, the Town wishes to continue its commitment to the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, of historic resources, of land for recreational use, and of the creation, preservation and support of affordable community housing.

The Board of Selectmen voted to endorse a Local Initiative Petition for two affordable housing units as part of an eight unit development at 809-811 Boston Post Road. After this approval, the application was forwarded to the Board of Appeals for consideration.

Negotiations were completed and a Memorandum of Agreement was signed with the MWRA regarding the Ash Street Reservoir. The arrangement provides for the maintenance of water quality for this back-up supply and facilitates use of surrounding land for passive recreation; it provides that the MWRA withdraw its full-time staff from the facility and that the Town of

Weston assume responsibility for the land outside the fence. The initial term of the agreement is for one year.

The Board of Selectmen appointed a Tree Advisory Group, a committee of citizens charged with developing short- and long-term plans for planting trees and shrubs throughout the Town. Recommendations of the Tree Advisory Group were especially helpful to the Board of Selectmen when NSTAR, at its own expense, sought to remove a significant number of trees from Town roads. Many of the trees identified for removal by NSTAR were dead or dying and their removal represented a benefit to the Town, but some were deemed part of the Town's ambiance and character and were accordingly preserved. The Tree Advisory Group proposed, and the Board of Selectmen approved, the designation of May 2 as the Town of Weston's Arbor Day.

The Board of Selectmen also appointed a Traffic Island Committee comprising, among others, representatives of the three garden clubs in Weston, to map the locations of all of the traffic islands in the Town and develop guidelines for the design layout and maintenance of individual projects as well as for advertising. The Committee was asked also to make other recommendations regarding beautification projects in the Town.

#### ***Traffic Management***

Traffic continued to be an important issue in the Town undoubtedly because of its location at the intersection of the Massachusetts Turnpike and Rt. 128 as well as other major highways bringing traffic into Boston from the burgeoning Metro-West area. Based in large part upon the recommendations of the Traffic Advisory Committee, pedestrian crossings were established, stop signs were erected, parking regulations were established, trucks were excluded from certain areas, intersections were redesigned, and in one case, a road (Fiske Lane) was made one-way. The use of speed humps, however, continues to generate controversy: achieving a balance between their effectiveness in slowing traffic and their imposition on the comfort, safety and well-being of vehicular traffic was time consuming and sometimes elusive.

#### ***Personnel***

The Town of Weston has long been blessed by having a very professional, capable, and dedicated staff. During 2003, Gunta Grube retired from the Town Clerk's office after over 25 years of service. David Johansen resigned to accept a position as head of public works in the Town of Dennis after 20 years in Weston in a succession of positions of increasing responsibility, most recently as Deputy Director for the Department of Public Works. Richard Sullivan, a professional civil engineer, was appointed as Mr. Johansen's replacement.

Steven Shaw, formerly a lieutenant in the Police Department, was promoted to Police Chief, replacing Charles Mayo. Chief Shaw grew up in Weston and attended the Weston Public Schools; his father served with the Weston Police Department from 1950 to 1986, serving as Police Chief for 28 years. Patricia Parslow was appointed as the new Director of the Council on Aging, succeeding Marilyn Campbell who served in that position for well over a decade.

#### ***Conclusion***

It is incumbent on the Board of Selectmen to address the Town's responsibilities of all of its citizens. In Weston this becomes especially challenging in difficult economic times such as the last year, where not all citizens face hardship but where the financial burden falls heavy on some, often on elderly people whose presence and contributions to the Town have helped forge its character. Responsible, prudent spending was the number one priority for the Board of Selectmen, and we believe that goal was accomplished in 2003.

The Town is fortunate to have the care and dedication of so many of its citizens who volunteer their time in town service on a host of elected and appointed boards and committees, or related

non-profit organizations. The Board of Selectmen could not have accomplished its goal without them. To these people and to the Town's outstanding professional staff, great gratitude is owed.

### LICENSES ISSUED BY SELECTMEN IN 2003

#### Common Victuallers' Licenses

Alcot Corp. - <i>dba</i> Ye Olde Cottage Restaurant, Inc.	403 Boston Post Road
Beantown Bagels, Inc. - <i>dba</i> Bruegger's Bagel Bakery	21 Centre Street
Campo De'Fiori	37 Center Street
Dennis Maxwell - <i>dba</i> Dairy Joy	331 North Avenue
Off Center Eateries	436 Boston Post Road
TOKC, Inc. - <i>dba</i> The Open Kitchen	456 Boston Post Road

#### Licenses to Dispense Food and Beverages

(Chapter 140, Section 21E, M.G.L.)

Hazel Hotchkiss Wightman Tennis Center	100 Brown Street
Pine Brook Country Club, Inc.	42 Newton Street
Weston Golf Club	275 Meadowbrook Road

#### Parades, Bicycle Tours and Road Races, etc.

The Brain Tumor Society	Bicycle Race	May 18,2003
Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program, Inc.	Road Race	July 26 2003
Rotary Club of Weston	Antique Car Show	September 27, 2003
Weston United Methodist Church	Crop Walk	October 19, 2003
Weston Community Children's Association	Halloween Parade	October 26, 2003
Weston High School Class of 2004	Charity Walk	October 26, 2003

#### Public Entertainment on Sunday

Massachusetts Carriage Society	Clinic	April 6, 2003
Jericho Forest Pony Club	Combined Test	April 27,2003
Weston-Wayland Open Spring Horse Show	Horse Show	May 9,2003
Weston Spring Open Horse Show	Fall Hunter Pace	November 16, 2003

#### Other

Robert P. Millian	Private Livery Service
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## REPORT OF THE CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Town's 1998 cable license with Comcast provides, among other things, for a ten-year non-exclusive license to Comcast, an \$80,000 equipment package for the high school and the Town's cable television studio, Internet access to the public schools in the Town for the term of the license, and an institutional network ("INET") for data and video transmission among the Town's public schools and municipal buildings. The equipment package, Internet access, and INET are at no cost to the Town.

At the present time, the existing INET is meeting the Town's needs. However, some down time occurred in 2003 as a result of several unrelated problems. While these problems have been corrected, increased data requirements, equipment obsolescence, and cablecasting of local events may require replacing the INET with an all-fiber or hybrid-fiber-coaxial network, or an investment in alternative data communication technology.

The cost of a new INET, if it is constructed, would be paid for by the Town. However, under the provisions of the 1998 license, if a new INET is built by Comcast, up to 20% of the cost may be passed on to the Town's cable subscribers. The decision to construct a new INET or to acquire alternate technology has been deferred until such time as the need for it develops.

During 2003, the Cable Advisory Committee monitored programming on the Weston access channel, the availability of equipment for the Weston Studio, allocation of Comcast staff time to Weston programming, and general channel alignment and allocation. In addition, the Cable Advisory Committee raised and addressed with Comcast certain specific questions raised by Town residents.

## REPORT OF THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

On December 31, 2003 there were 6,939 *Active* registered voters in the Town of Weston, while 356 voters were listed as *Inactive*.

Many newcomers used the Department of Motor Vehicles to register to vote electronically. This system automatically certifies each voter's data in the Statewide Voter Registration database. This system has been in effect since 1995 following the state's adoption of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

Any citizen age 18 or over may register to vote in the Town Clerk's office during regular office hours (M-- F: 8:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m.). In addition, the Clerk's office is open until 8 p.m. for a special registration session three weeks before each election and town meeting. Mail-in registration forms are also available in a variety of public places around the town and the state. Only registered voters may vote in state and town elections and at Town Meeting.

Every year a Census of all residents is taken by the town. If the Town does not receive census information for a voter, that individual's name is placed on an *Inactive* voters' list. Any individual on this list who has not voted in two consecutive biennial state elections is then notified by mail that his or her name will be removed from the *Inactive* voters' list.

### Weston Voters by Party and by Precinct:

PARTY	PRECINCT				
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	TOTAL
Republican	441	396	433	403	1673
Democrats	477	401	340	367	1585
Green Party USA	2	0	2	1	5
Libertarian	0	2	3	1	6
Inter.3 <sup>rd</sup> Party	0	0	1	0	1
Green Rainbow	3	3	3	1	10
Unenrolled	1,009	840	831	979	3,666
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE VOTERS</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>1,642</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>1,752</b>	<b>6,939</b>
<i>Inactive Voters</i>	94	93	106	82	375

### REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Births, marriages and deaths recorded in the Town Clerk's Office of the Town of Weston for the year 2003:

Number of births in 2003:	88
Number of marriages in 2003:	46
Number of deaths in 2003:	120
Weston Residents	81
Non-Residents	40

Population of the Town of Weston (2003 census): 11,200

The following detailed report of births, marriages and deaths recorded during 2003 is printed for the purpose of bringing to the attention of interested persons the facts which appear on the official records of the Town Clerk. Please check the names and other data for errors, and notify the Town Clerk's Office.

### BIRTHS RECORDED IN WESTON IN 2003

<b>January</b>	9	Epstein, Bruno Earl	Adam Sean and Lucia DeFatima
	10	Grunigen, Nicholas Flynn	Erik Von and Erin Flynn
	10	Stonestreet, Sarah Goodwin	John Paul and Leslie Goodwin
	21	Kouyoumjian, Richard Joseph	Charles Haigazoon and Donna Ann
	21	Kouyoumjian, Alexander Charles	Charles Haigazoon and Donna Ann
	21	Gagliardi, Vanessa Maria	Joseph Anthony and Laura Ann
	22	Tiller, Annabelle Frazier	Steven Thomas and Brooke Frazier
<b>February</b>	12	Hotchkiss, Jenny Sylvia	Steven Andrew and Edith Harriet
	15	Armstrong, David Roy	Michael Anthony and Dina Marie
	21	Hall, Lydia Beth	Richard Lawrence and Susan Pawlick
	21	Schluter, Raia Gwon	Scott Walter and Cally Gwon
	27	Goguen, Thomas James	Richard Raymond and Kristen Elizabeth
<b>March</b>	4	Angelucci, Nicolas Peter	Dante and Linda Ellen
	7	Malhotra, Tej Bergner	Rajeev and Kim Allison
	13	Costello, Meghan Elizabeth	Brian Paul and Kimberly Lynn
	21	Joseph, Kevin Roy	Todd Wells and Linda Marie
	22	Hadden, Maclean Heathwood	Jeffrey Chase and Victoria Anne

March 25	Kennedy, Pierce Whitney	Christopher Clarence and Heather Whitney
26	Pettinato, Mark Vincent	Paul J. and Andrea Agnello
31	Tabors, Jackson Pratt	Robert David and Cristen Ann
April 10	Langenhagen, Cameron Lee	Rodd Cameron and Mary Elizabeth
15	Meyers, Zachary Allin	Harold Vernon and Jane Allin
28	Catalino, Lucia Nicolette	Jerome Anthony and Colette Suzanne
30	Peters, Brendan Patrick	Charles James and Karen Marie
30	Lavalle, Caitlin Mary	Steven Walter and Mary Theresa
May 2	In, Andrea	Kevin Lee and Jina
4	Keane, Patrick Teagan	John Francis and Anne-Marie
4	Gutierrez, Francisco Luis	Arturo Jorge and Connie Karassas
6	Morris-Kliment, Samuel Henry	Nicholas McClure and Jameson Lynn
14	Lilly, Douglas Charles	Leonard Stuart and Carolyn Sue
14	Lilly, Deborah Ann	Leonard Stuart and Carolyn Sue
15	Mannix, James Jerome, III	James Jerome and Rebekah Christina
19	Goode, Jacqueline Grace	Timothy George and Kathleen Patricia
21	Ostrum, Kamran Jan	Jeffrey Mark and Mojgan
23	Schulman, Anna Elizabeth	Matthew Glen and Melisa Barlow
24	Ewald, Steven Frederick	Frederick Mandt and Robin Leigh
30	Friedman, Sawyer Dillon	Sheldon David and Susanne Natalie
30	Thompson, Ava Margaret	Hugh Brandon and Mary Ruth
31	Hillery, Margaret Susan	Matthew Gregg and Linda Strain
June 7	Foley, Margaret Ellis	Kevin Jeffrey and Hope Drury
11	Lemley, Calvin Fraser	Christopher Fraser and Jennifer Ruth
15	Fernandez, Zoe Gabriela	Mariano Gentini and Alison Dorman
20	Ng, Serena Boyu	Tat Keung and Suzanne Ho-Yu
24	Mishra, Radhika	Upendra Nath and Amita
27	Pohl, Phoebe Jane	Charles Gaynor and Jessica Elizabeth
July 3	Murphy, Ryan Benet	Kelley George and Christina Isabelle
4	Liu, Jacqueline Shan-Ling	Jun and Wei
8	Berbeco, Dorothy Ruth	George Richard and Hillary Thompson
17	Kamshad, Kian Alexander	Omid and Kimya Moghadam
24	Cort, Michael James	Glenn Alden and Brooke Ethridge
25	Delduchetto Brian Matthew	Michael William and Ann Marie
25	Marchiony, Charles Joseph	John Andrew and Deborah Rowe
27	Pava, Ella Luisa	Carlos Augusto and Tess Ryan
29	Higgins, Kaitlin Olin	Michael Kenneth and Carla Jabbour
29	Higgins, Samantha Jabbour	Michael Kenneth and Carla Jabbour
29	Hryckowian, Massimina Grace	Mitchell and Julia Jean
30	Bartolotti, Lena Maria	Anthony Joseph and Leslie Diane
August 1	Georgakopoulos, Alexander Elias	Dimitrios and May Jane
1	Khavandgar, Kevin Taghi	Amir Reza and Maryam
3	Lawry, Heath William	Seth William and Cynthia
6	Buonato, Barbara Abigail	Robert Edward and Robin Viola
8	Shulman, Janelle Paige	Joel Mark and Kristen Lynn
13	Janfaza, Rebecca Paige	Andrew Edward and Melissa Weiner
16	Maystrovsky, Benjamin Jacob	Vadim Gennady and Ramila Farukovna
20	Miller, Anna Hewitt	Michael Christopher and Laura Hewitt
21	Goldstone, Alexander Ross	David Allen and Carolyn Ann
September 2	Root, Myles Austen	Scott Allen and Coco-Alexandra Elizabeth
7	Scott, James Daniel	Daniel Marion and Michelle Anne
22	Jones, Virginia Grace	Herbert Earl and Sharon Louise
22	Jones, Weston Earl	Herbert Earl and Sharon Louise

<b>October</b>	<b>5</b>	Halek, Christopher Charles	Aziz Moussa and Marianne Touma
	<b>13</b>	Kasdon, Lilia Gray	Robert Carter an Grayson Collina
	<b>14</b>	Lenhardt, Colin Kingery	Brian Dunham and Jill Elizabeth
	<b>23</b>	Psyhogeos, Peter James	George James and Abigail Marr
	<b>24</b>	Neil, Harrison Douglas	Gregory Alan and Jane Elizabeth
	<b>30</b>	Willi, Marc Philip	John Philip and Natalie Anne
<b>November</b>	<b>1</b>	Swanson, Lily Clark	Erik Owen and Teresa Hennessey
	<b>1</b>	Kulow, John Frederick	David Mattson and Marianne Delpo
	<b>4</b>	Flavin, Jackson Parker	Casey Eiran and Nicole
	<b>5</b>	Roan, Amanda Mary	James Thomas and Laura
	<b>8</b>	Umlas, Golde Bess	James Warren and Meg Goldberg
	<b>8</b>	Monovoukas, Christian Gabriel	Yiannis and Jamie
	<b>8</b>	Monovoukas, Aresti Michael	Yiannis and Jamie
	<b>21</b>	Lohse, Thomas Shihua	Peter Andreas and Laura
<b>December</b>	<b>8</b>	Tutun, Emila Sarah	Paul David and Cheryl Dubin
	<b>10</b>	Kinnealey, Patrick Thomas	William Paul and Patricia Ann
	<b>12</b>	Winchman, Courtney Alena	Edward Henry and Carrie Anne
	<b>26</b>	Lang, Grace Victoire	Kenneth and Victoire Lang

### MARRIAGES RECORDED IN WESTON IN 2003

<b>January</b>	<b>25</b>	Scott Laine and Amy Alden Williams both of Weston	
<b>February</b>	<b>1</b>	David P. Bell of Weston and Rita H. Sheehan of Springfield ,MA	
	<b>13</b>	Edward Lewis Buckner of Newton, MA and Jalene Tien Ferber of Weston	
<b>March</b>	<b>7</b>	Sukhwinder Singh and Jaswinder Kaur both of Weston	
	<b>15</b>	Solon Paul Zafiropoulos and Martha Lydia Gomez both of Brighton, MA	
	<b>22</b>	Joshua S. Mendelsohn and Jamie Lynne Brenner both of Cambridge, MA	
<b>April</b>	<b>25</b>	Matthew David Chase and Kendra Hegeman Ashcroft both of Jamaica Plain, MA	
	<b>26</b>	William Emmett Wacaser and Carol Maureen Hines both of Crystal Lake, IL	
	<b>26</b>	Sean Kenneth Kronberg and Tracey Nielson Leavitt both of Bothell, WA	
<b>May</b>	<b>3</b>	Sean Patrick Thomas and Ara Beth Gershengorn both of Washington, DC	
	<b>10</b>	Robert P. Cook of Weston and Leslee Davis Chesnut of Boston	
	<b>17</b>	Frederick L. Duguay, III and Elaine J. Kakridas both of Tampa, FL	
	<b>17</b>	Keith B. Gelb and Debra L. Olitsky both of Weston	
	<b>23</b>	Michael Montgomery Mordas of Wayland and Patricia Anne Fennell of Weston	
	<b>24</b>	Lenard B. Zide and Susan B. MacDougall both of Weston	
	<b>24</b>	Joel David Breen and Courtney Emerson Lowd both of Weston	
	<b>24</b>	Thomas J. McGuiness, Sr. and Linda J. Linton both of Weston	
	<b>31</b>	Steven Arthur Cox of Waltham and Kathryn Mary Regan of Newton	
<b>June</b>	<b>1</b>	Barry S. Smith and Elizabeth G. Hanley both of Framingham	
	<b>7</b>	Adam D. Perrin of Arlington and Denise A. Provencher of Fayville, MA	
	<b>7</b>	Gregory Peter Stock and Jennifer Anne Guzzi both of Waltham	
	<b>8</b>	Vassilios James Bezzerides of Brookline and Ann Matilda Mitsakos of Newton	
	<b>14</b>	John Alfred Farina, Jr. and Beverly Carol Griffith both of Weston	
	<b>14</b>	Peter Worden and Monila Diosela Paz both of Arlington	
	<b>21</b>	Scott Nielsen Miller of Lexington and Lisa Anne Cosimi of Boston	
	<b>28</b>	Royce Aaron Christopher Yeater and Caroline Louise Marple both of Boston	
	<b>28</b>	Matthew Brett Shulkin and Traci Lauren Schulman both of Wayland	
	<b>29</b>	Mark Beshansky of Brighton and Deborah J. Cohan of Waltham	

July 12	Bradley Walter Helies and Jennifer Lynn Fachini both of Cambridge
19	Gerardo Jose Martinez and Shaina MacLeod both of Natick
20	Steven K. Merrill and Diane Estelle Szydlowski both of Weston
August	No marriages were recorded in the month of August
September 13	Stephen Mark Rothenberg and Erica Dorsey Rodney both of Weston
20	Troy Richard Magnuson and Katherine Elizabeth Lewis both of Minneapolis, MN
21	Barry Mitchell Goldman and Janit S. Greenwood both of Weston
27	Gary William Dragoon and Diane Elaine Young both of Weston
30	Bernhard M. Auer and Ellen Babette Weiss both of Germany
October 3	Kermit Lea Stofer of Weston and Lynn P. Malloy of Boston
4	Christopher Dieter Burbage and Laura Elizabeth Uhrich both of Athens, GA
11	David Lawrence McGuire and Tracey Nan Kaplan both of Cambridge.
15	John Harrison Hersh and Martha Judith Malca Leo both of Weston
21	Justin Quinn and Lisa Chinetti both of Weston
26	Edward Solomon Taub and Sandra Holly Schwartz both of Brookline
November 1	Eugene Keith Buono and Heather Trystine Moylan both of San Francisco, CA
8	Jason Scott Rosenthal and Lisa Emily Kussell both of New York
9	Michael Railroad Ryan and Michele Lynn Ames both of Weston
22	Joseph Angelo Panaggio, Jr. and Mari Ann Daoud both of Weston
December	No marriages were recorded in the month of December

#### DEATHS RECORDED IN WESTON IN 2003

Date	Name	Birth Place	Age
January 3	Rita M. LeBlanc	Massachusetts	72
4	George H. Manson	Massachusetts	87
6	Ida M. Engrassia	Massachusetts	78
8	Herbert L. Emanuelson	Connecticut	73
11	Ralph Alton Webb	Virginia	95
14	Virginia Wheeler Schofield	Massachusetts	74
23	Constance Hutchins Cahill	Massachusetts	70
25	Donald Dee David Lynch	Connecticut	74
29	Frank C. Sweet	Massachusetts	69
29	John Raymond Fuller	Ohio	90
31	Harry G. Burns, III	Massachusetts	13
February 2	Eleanor Thomas Nelson	Massachusetts	71
8	Edward Howard Nowlan	Massachusetts	91
8	Daniel E. Compton, Jr.	Massachusetts	72
12	Frances Sarly	Massachusetts	93
14	John R. Kirk	Massachusetts	73
17	Mark L. Curran	Canada	79
21	Lena E. Raymon	Massachusetts	88
23	William D. Kraft	Massachusetts	28
26	John Whitney Sullivan	Massachusetts	85
26	Gertrude Jarrell Read	Georgia	82
March 2	Selma Finstein	Massachusetts	89
2	Ernst F.R.A. Schloemann	Germany	76
5	Jeannette M. Surette	Massachusetts	70

March 5	Joseph Imbordino	Italy	95
6	John J. Baranofsky	Massachusetts	70
9	Hope L. Petrie	Massachusetts	99
20	Carlton E. Clift	Connecticut	90
27	Virginia Chenoweth	Colorado	90
April 2	Belle Brown	Russia	97
3	Varoujan M. Azablar	Egypt	76
4	Harry Oliver Croll	Pennsylvania	92
7	Cesilia Rivera	Puerto Rico	81
14	Grace Barrett Coxhead	New Jersey	90
16	Agnes Frances Rolland	Massachusetts	87
19	Albert L. Kalman	Massachusetts	80
19	Benedetto A. Vantresco	Massachusetts	83
22	Vincent L. Molinaro	Massachusetts	82
23	Eva Melanson	Canada	96
23	Herbert E. Kelley, Sr.	Massachusetts	86
25	Amelia T. D'Ercole	Massachusetts	85
27	Elsie Lisman	Germany	94
27	Alice Wallace Harding	Massachusetts	97
29	Robert F. Hoey	Massachusetts	81
May 3	Alice Walker	Massachusetts	90
4	Barbara M. Judge	Massachusetts	81
7	Louise Dankner	Massachusetts	89
14	Nicolas Peter Angelucci	Massachusetts	0
14	Kathryn J. Detwiler	Michigan	52
15	Christine C. Wilkins	Massachusetts	58
19	Lillian Gately	Massachusetts	81
19	Douglas Schofield	Massachusetts	78
20	Mary E. Davis	New Hampshire	93
26	Earle Wells Pughe, Jr.	Michigan	77
28	Estella Irene Leach	Maine	94
29	Dana S. Janigan	Massachusetts	45
29	Esther Raphael	Massachusetts	95
June 4	Jerome Stephen Schwartz	New York	92
9	Mary Boyle	Massachusetts	101
11	Lillian Gerstein	Massachusetts	89
11	Donald Gordon McLean	Massachusetts	76
11	William E. Westell	Massachusetts	74
11	Edgar R. St. Germain	Massachusetts	87
14	Emily Sinerate	Italy	90
14	Emma C. Furlong	Massachusetts	97
17	Marie A. Dismukes	Massachusetts	90
22	Madeleine Yvonne Sargent	Massachusetts	82
24	Alice M. Clare	Massachusetts	90
25	Felix F. Talbot	Massachusetts	92
29	Donald Edward McMann	Massachusetts	74
29	Elizabeth A. Kosrofian	Massachusetts	88
30	James Holland Cotter	Massachusetts	78
July 2	Cecil Landau	Massachusetts	94
2	Jean Robert LeBrun	Haiti	54
2	Dorothy McAleer	Italy	92
5	Barbara Evers Pannebaker	Massachusetts	89
5	Mary Rose Valle	Massachusetts	97
9	Francis Patrick Molloy	Massachusetts	84

July	10	Raymond Andrew Paynter, Jr.	New York	77
	16	John P. Hearn	Massachusetts	86
	17	Joan Gertrude MacArthur	New York	73
	18	Claire Elizabeth McMullen	Maine	97
	27	David Smith McLellan	Massachusetts	86
	28	Helen L. Bradley	Pennsylvania	72
	31	David Foster Choate, Jr.	Massachusetts	87
August	1	Geraldine Catalfo	New York	79
	3	Adele P. Levine	Canada	90
	5	Frances A. Black	Massachusetts	90
	15	Charles Richard McKenney	Massachusetts	88
	15	Lillian Beatrice Schneider	Massachusetts	76
	16	Carl C. Seltzer	Massachusetts	95
	22	Helen Paine Dickson	Massachusetts	99
	22	Claude Emanuel Menders	France	59
	23	Harry Green	Connecticut	95
	24	Shi Ming Ng	China	84
	25	Helen M. Scott	Massachusetts	87
	25	Florence E. King	Massachusetts	81
	28	Walter Henderson Palmer	Massachusetts	74
September	4	Daniel Coyne Lewis	Massachusetts	73
	5	Edward S. Jacobson	New Jersey	89
	10	Mary C. Eldred	California	87
	13	Dorothy Evans Munson	Pennsylvania	92
	19	Harry Clement Crawford, Jr.	Pennsylvania	89
	19	Edna LeBlanc	Canada	84
	20	Lenore Braen	New York	93
	21	Charlotte Annie Stevens	Massachusetts	95
	22	James L. Loder	Massachusetts	68
	22	Frances J. Brown	Massachusetts	97
	26	Emilie A. Finnerty	New York	83
	29	Barbara Giles	Michigan	85
October	1	Dorothy N. Boyce	Massachusetts	94
	2	John G. Finneman	Massachusetts	94
	8	Raymond W. Washburn	Massachusetts	103
	8	William P. O'Grady	Massachusetts	74
	9	Annette Aronson	Massachusetts	88
	18	Andrew E. Reynolds	Massachusetts	96
	18	Perley Leroy Grant	Massachusetts	82
	20	Margaret T. Maguire	Massachusetts	88
	26	Robert Richard Burke	Massachusetts	70
	27	Marie S. Gallagher	Massachusetts	72
	31	Maurice Bernard Walsh	Massachusetts	87
	31	Anastasia T. Scanlon	Massachusetts	91
November	2	Eunice Ferguson	Iowa	84
	3	Nicholas F. Yannoni	Massachusetts	76
	9	Edmund K. Cheney	Massachusetts	93
	13	George Sterling Burr	Massachusetts	86
	16	Evelyn Weiner Andelman	Massachusetts	86
	17	Lloyd M. Thompson, Jr.	Massachusetts	58
	18	Margaret D. Clark	Massachusetts	82
	20	Mary M. Smith	Massachusetts	81
	30	Cheryl Susan Dempsey	Wisconsin	55

December 4	Charles David Reydel	New Jersey	59
5	Sami A. Daoud. MD	Syria	79
7	Kathleen Marie Martin	Massachusetts	86
8	David C. Diamond	Massachusetts	75
9	Elmire LeBlanc	Massachusetts	95
10	Elsie Mary Ricci	Massachusetts	93
14	Genevieve M. Doyle	Massachusetts	89
15	Edmund R. Tarallo	Massachusetts	87
17	Edward T. Driscoll	Massachusetts	85
17	Beatrice E. Launder	Canada	97
20	Florence Irene McGuire	Rhode Island	94
20	Janet S. Aaron	Massachusetts	88
21	Edna M. MacNabb	Ohio	88
21	Ethel R. Williams	Massachusetts	88

#### LICENSE REPORT - DOGS

58 Male/Female	@	\$ 11.00	\$ 638.00
395 Spayed Females/Neutered Males	@	7.00	<u>2,765.00</u>
			<u>3,403.00</u>

#### LICENSE REPORT - FISH AND GAME

39 Resident Fishing	@	\$ 22.50	877.50
3 Resident Fishing - Minor	@	6.50	19.50
2 Resident Fishing - 65-69	@	11.25	22.50
8 Resident Fishing - 70 & over	FREE		
Resident 3 day Fishing	@	7.50	
1 Non Res. 3 day Fishing	@	18.50	18.50
12 Resident Citizen Hunting	@	22.50	270.00
1 Resident Hunting 65-69	@	11.25	11.25
9 Resident Sporting	@	40.00	360.00
Resident Sporting - 65-69	@	20.00	
10 Resident Sporting over 70	FREE		
4 Archery Stamps	@	5.10	20.40
17 MA Waterfowl Stamps	@	5.00	85.00
7 Primitive Firearms Stamps	@	5.10	35.70
67 Resident Conservation Stamps	@	5.00	335.00
3 Non Resident Conservation Stamps	@	5.00	<u>15.00</u>
			\$ 2,070.35

*Less:* Fees Deducted

67 Licenses	@	0.50	(33.50)
4 Archery Stamp Fees	@	0.10	(.40)
17 Duck Stamp Fees	@	0.25	(4.25)
7 Primitive Firearms Stamp	@	0.10	(.70)
			\$ (38.85)
Paid to the Division of Fisheries & Game			<u>\$ 2,031.50</u>

## LAND USE, PLANNING AND ZONING

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals hears and decides on applications for variances from zoning restrictions; findings (on additions or changes for preexisting, nonconforming properties); special permits for exceptional uses specified in the Zoning By Law; and comprehensive permits (under the "Anti-Snob Zoning" or Low and Moderate Income Housing Act of 1969). These cases total about 70 to 80 annually. Some are readily decided, but a few require multiple hearings and participation with other boards and committees.

While zoning restrictions have protected the town from haphazard overdevelopment and have preserved a level of residential privacy, they may pose hardships to owners wishing to improve or to use their properties in a reasonable way. Hence the Board might serve as a "relief valve" in some such cases.

Zoning in Weston began in 1928 and has been strengthened throughout subsequent years in light of new concerns and pressures. Since there is no town sewage, each property must have its own septic system, which incidentally requires and legally justifies larger lots and setbacks. However, our unique desirability and soaring property values - due not only to zoning, but also to a location convenient to the great facilities of a metropolitan area that draws talented people, which in turn leads to superior schools, involved citizenry and responsible local government - create special problems:

1. Building sites (with or without existing houses thereon) have become so valuable that new houses (often as replacements on the sites) are inevitably very large in view of the expensive land component.
2. Additions to enlarge existing houses often need variances from setback and other restrictions, or need "findings" to expand older preexisting, nonconforming properties.
3. Since new houses are large and remodeled expanded existing houses become expensive, the availability of "reasonably" priced residences has dwindled, excluding many young buyers and older residents, to the loss of diversity.
4. More special permits for accessory apartments are being sought, where the main residence is large and over 10 years old.

Variances: An owner wishing to enlarge a house or build a new one may find that some peculiarity of the lot (area, width, frontage, setbacks) conflicts with otherwise reasonable plans. Since the Inspector of Buildings cannot issue the necessary permit, the remedy is an appeal to the Board. This requires a two week newspaper publication of the legal notice, along with mailed notices to neighbors, for the scheduled hearing. The process thus takes more than three weeks plus an additional three-week period required for anyone who wishes to appeal the decision to the courts.

The authority to grant variances is provided by law under specified and limited conditions; they are permissible only upon a showing of:

- 1) special circumstances (like shape of lot or topography) making literal enforcement of the restrictions a substantial hardship, and
- 2) where desirable relief may be granted without detriment to the public good, and
- 3) without nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent of the zoning law.

These three legal requirements must be satisfied, factually supported at the hearing and explained in the Board's written decision.

Findings: If a house was built before zoning or tightening revisions, on what becomes a preexisting, nonconforming lot, it is "grandfathered." However, the owner may wish to improve the house; if the addition does not extend beyond the present setback requirements or does not create new nonconformities, he/she may seek a "finding," a simpler procedure, that the change will not be more detrimental to the neighborhood. In view of the circumstances referred to above, these "findings" are becoming more frequent.

Special Permits may be granted for a variety of exceptional uses of property in instances provided for in the "Use Regulations" section of the Zoning Bylaw covering all districts (residential, multiple dwelling, business, "R&D," wetlands and Aquifer Protection). The special permit procedure also applies to accessory apartments, non- incidental removal of loam, sand, and gravel, and to the storage of vehicles, supplies and equipment in a residential district under special circumstances. In many of these cases the site plan approval procedure must first be followed, or waived, in conjunction with the Planning Board's prior review. While the special permit procedure allows for wide discretion, it cannot be used to permit any use contrary to the Zoning Bylaw.

Comprehensive Permits - In 1969, Massachusetts enacted the "Anti-Snob Zoning" or Low and Moderate Income Housing Act. Under this law, a developer (public agency, limited dividend or nonprofit organization) may seek a "comprehensive permit" with the Board of Appeals to build low or moderate income housing, overriding local zoning restrictions. Two such developments have been approved: in 1995, "Winter Gardens" (a 24 house project, with six permanently designated as "affordable" for buyers satisfying limited income and asset requirements under state regulations); and in 1999, "Dickson Meadow" (an 18 house project, six "affordable"). Ownership is by condominium law. A new application for eight units of home ownership mixed income housing at 809-811 Boston Post Road is currently before the Board.

Conclusion: Hearings by the Board are fully public; neighbors are formally notified and may attend and voice their opinions or concerns. Some cases do provoke controversy and a few require public hearings over extended periods. The Board makes a sincere effort to listen to each interested neighbor, or resident or other parties and attorneys if involved. The Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Historical Commission and others may be involved.

The Board's members typically serve for many years, providing seasoned experience, continuity and collegiality. Three of the six Board members sit on each panel.

## REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) evaluates proposals submitted by Weston residents or other boards and committees for use of funds that the Town receives pursuant to the Community Preservation Act, which the Town accepted in 2001. Those projects that the CPC deems to be the best and most suitable are recommended to Town Meeting, which has the sole power to approve or reject funding of the proposals the CPC has recommended.

At Annual Town Meeting in May, 2003, the CPC presented its plan and recommendations for FY04. Prior to the several articles initiated by the CPC, the Finance Committee initiated a "sense of Town Meeting" article to determine the degree of support for maintaining the Community Preservation surcharge at 3%. The CPC was relieved that Town Meeting voted overwhelmingly to continue the CP program at the 3% level. Had Town Meeting voted against retaining the

surtax at 3%, a lower percentage would have been proposed, and voters at the next local election (May, 2004) would have been asked to ratify the amendment.

The articles sponsored by the CPC at May, 2003 Town Meeting were as follows:

- Uniform allocation of \$220,000 to each of the three dedicated sub-accounts: open space and recreation, affordable housing, and historic preservation. Once funds are thusly set aside for a specific purpose, they may not be reassigned to a different purpose. In the interest of greatest flexibility to address any of the three purposes, the CPC continued to pursue a policy of allocating close to the 10% minimum to each account and keeping most of the funds as unreserved, where it may be drawn upon to address any of the three purposes.
- Appropriation of \$44,000 to the use of the Committee for administrative expenses. The committee arrived at that amount in anticipation of the following expenses:

\$ 10,000	Housing survey
\$ 10,000	Josiah Smith Tavern capital needs study
\$ 6,000	Needs study of Melone Homestead
\$ 10,000	Appraisals and legal services
\$ 8,000	Printing/ mailing/staffing

- Appropriation of \$336,000 to service the debt on the Sunday Woods bond -- attributed to open space preservation.
- Appropriation of \$225,000 for the purchase a preservation restriction on the property located at 809-811 Boston Post Road, an eight-unit 40B project. The cost of a preservation restriction is the difference between the property's market value with and without the restriction, which is a deed restriction that runs with the property in perpetuity. This sum was attributed to historic preservation.
- Appropriation of \$160,000 to subsidize the two proposed affordable units on the property located at 809-811 Boston Post Road. The sum, attributed to community housing, represents half of the projected purchase price of the affordable units.

By the end of the year, the housing survey was complete, action on the Melone Homestead was in the planning stages, and the Josiah Smith Tavern was receiving considerable attention.

The Melone Homestead is a Town-owned old house located on a tract of conservation land known as the Sears land, and it has been designated by the Historical Commission as historically significant. The Melone Homestead, rented by Land's Sake for use as office space and as housing for Land's Sake employees, is in desperate need of renovation to bring it up to code.

Study of the Josiah Smith Tavern, physically adjacent to the Old Library and sharing highest priority status along with the Old Library for public funding to establish and restore to a viable use, is well underway.

In the late months of 2003, the CPC's attention was turned to these and other potential projects for FY05.

## REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission is responsible for the protection and management of Weston's conservation land and the administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

The administration of the Wetlands Protection Act continues to take over one half the time of the Conservation Commission. A total of 83 hearings were conducted during the year. Persons contemplating any work in or within 100 feet of a wetland, or within 200 feet of a stream which flows continuously throughout the year, should seek information about the Wetlands Protection Act at the Commission's office in the Town Hall.

During the past year, the Commission has remained committed to the responsible use and management of the Town Conservation land. Trails, fire roads, and hilltop outlooks have been maintained for public use and enjoyment with most of the funding provided by the Weston Forest and Trail Association. Fields throughout the Town have been mowed under contract by Land's Sake.

The Commission enjoyed another year of stewardship of the Case Estate's Forty Acre Field, which was purchased by the town for municipal purposes from Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum. This area has been managed for the Commission by Land's Sake. Land's Sake is a nonprofit, community service organization dedicated to the productive use and maintenance of land in Weston as well as providing education and employment for young people in Weston. Vegetables, flowers, herbs and fruit were provided for sale at a farm stand or on a pick-your-own basis. Maintenance of this area continued with brush clearing, mowing, walking path upkeep, and tree work. Land's Sake also continues to maintain the apple orchard on Concord Road.



*"Sugaring Off" - Selling Weston Maple Syrup  
at the Middle School Sugar Shack.*

The Greenpower Farm project continues to be a vital part of the Town's activities. This project is administered by the Conservation Commission and managed for the Commission by Land's Sake. About 14,000 pounds of fresh produce was delivered at no cost to homeless shelters and food pantries. About 71 youngsters participated in this program. These young people received a practical introduction to organic farming and gardening. They were also involved in the distribution of produce to those who needed it. As in the past, land was also made available for community garden plots. Our popular maple syrup project was continued at the "sugar shack" at the Middle

School. The Commission supported Land's Sake's involvement with environmental education projects which were conducted with the School Department.

A forest management plan has been implemented which now provides fire wood and saw logs. By selective cutting and careful management, the Town's forests will ultimately be more productive and will provide improved wildlife habitat. Interpretive and signed trails have been completed on Conservation land off Crescent Street.

Land's Sake has been granted a license by the Commission to occupy the Melone Homestead off Crescent Street. This property provides office space and living quarters for some of their staff. Land's Sake has built a greenhouse near the house. There are several fields and a developing

sugar bush in the same area which will be used by Land's Sake in the future. This location makes an ideal home for Land's Sake and many of their activities.

The Commission has initiated a survey of the bounds of the land under its jurisdiction. This project will clarify the limits of the private land which abuts the conservation land in town.

## REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Weston's Historical Commission is a seven-member panel appointed by the Selectmen and charged with preserving the Town's architectural and historical heritage. Among its activities are the review of demolition delay applications, recommendations for use of Community Preservation Act funds, identification of and application for eligible neighborhoods to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, drafting and administration of Preservation Restrictions, and awarding Historic Markers.

### Community Preservation Act Projects

In accordance with state law, a minimum of 10% of the Town's Community Preservation Act Fund must be devoted to historic preservation. In 2003, Town Meeting voted \$225,000 to purchase a Preservation Restriction on a mid-nineteenth century house and barn at 809-811 Boston Post Road. The house and barn are to be converted to condominiums with two affordable units as part of a larger development. The restriction preserves the historic exteriors of the house and barn and gives the Town design review over new buildings in the project. Since spring, the Commission has worked with the developer, abutters, and Planning Board to achieve a design compatible with the rest of the Boston Post Road National Register District.

As the first stage of rehabilitation of the 1757 Josiah Smith Tavern (358 Boston Post Road), architectural drawings of the current state of the exterior and interior were obtained with funds approved at Town Meeting from both the Historical Commission and the Community Preservation Act Fund. These drawings document the historic structure and provide a resource for architects and craftsmen working on the Tavern.



*Josiah Smith Tavern. Photo taken ca. 1842 when house was owned by the Jones family.*

### Josiah Smith Tavern Committee

This five-member sub-committee chaired by John Sallay was appointed in the spring by the Historical Commission to oversee the maintenance and future use of the Tavern. In its first year the Tavern was surveyed and a detailed list of immediate repairs necessary to secure the exterior

shell was generated. In addition, some repairs were implemented including the installation of temporary heating in some rooms following the collapse of the heating system last winter. Measured drawings of the interior floor plan and exterior elevations were prepared. The building was audited to provide advice on accessibility to disabled persons. Funding for future restoration and maintenance was analyzed, as were some aspects of the legal and regulatory constraints surrounding the restoration.

To date, funding for this significant project draws principally on a bequest from the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities that resides in the Weston Town Trust Fund, the CPA Administration Fund, and the Historical Commission General Fund.

#### **Demolition Delay Activity**

Under provisions of the Town's Demolition Delay Bylaw, any proposal for demolition of all or part of a structure built before 1945 must be reviewed by the Commission to determine if the building is historically significant. If the proposed demolition is determined to be detrimental to the building's significance the Commission may delay demolition for up to six months in order to examine ways to preserve the historic elements of the structure. In 2003 the Commission reviewed 44 demolition applications and deemed 15 of the structures historically significant. Only two, a bungalow at 13 Pigeon Hill and a 19<sup>th</sup> century house and forge on Orchard Ave.(part of the Hubbard estate) were voted Preferably Preserved and the six-month delay on demolition imposed. Neighbors attending Public Hearings for both of these properties were strongly supportive of efforts to preserve the historic elements of the buildings.

One property under threat of demolition since 2000 has been saved through the demolition delay process. It is the classic, international-style house at 74 Sudbury Rd. built in 1932 by architect Edwin B. Goodell (1893-1973). In 2001 after the Weston Historical Commission placed a six-month demolition delay on the house, the publication, *Historic Massachusetts*, listed the property as one of the "10 Most Endangered Historic Resources for 2001." During the six-month demolition delay period both national and international exponents of modern-style houses joined in the effort to save this important property. In 2002 repairs were made to the house, and in 2003 a buyer was found.

#### **Historic Marker Program**

The Historical Commission approved eight applications for historic plaques in 2003 bringing the total number of such plaques to 139. In addition, three plaques were awarded to the following Town buildings: North Avenue Fire Station, Cambridge Reservoir Intake Station, and the Cambridge Reservoir Barn.

#### **Special Recognition**

It is with sincere gratitude that we recognize Sam Payson's 25 years of service to the Weston Historical Commission. Throughout his extended tenure, Sam brought his wisdom and continuity of perspective to the table. His resignation marks the end of an era. We also wish to thank Ned Rossiter who resigned this year after more than ten years on the Commission. Ned's encouragement and positive contributions both as Secretary and as representative to the Community Preservation Committee were greatly valued. We will miss him.

Fires may now burn in the 1805 Fiske Law Office at 626 Boston Post Rd. thanks to the Cambridge firm of Charlie Allen Restorations. Charlie Allen's *pro bono* work last February - relining the chimney and repointing the fireplaces and hearths - made this possible and deserves a special vote of appreciation.

#### **Community Outreach**

To broaden public awareness about our Town's historical heritage, the Commission sponsored a lecture by preservationist, Pamela Fox, highlighting the residences at Kendal Common and Spruce Hill. "*Building Toward a Better Future*" outlined the origins of the modern-style

architecture prevalent in these two neighborhoods. A tape of this lecture is available at the library. The Commission also distributed copies of National Register certificates and National Register listing applications to property owners in the recently listed Cases' Corner and Kendal Green National Register districts.

## REPORT OF THE CRESCENT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Crescent Street Historic District is a Local Historic District established under MGL Chapter 40C and is the only such district in Weston. There are eight houses in the district. The Crescent Street Historic District Commission is charged with review of proposed exterior modifications of structures and other features located within the district, in accordance with Article XXVIII of the Bylaw as enacted in 1993, provided that the changes are visible from Crescent Street. Of the five members serving on the Commission, three are district residents. Last year, two regular meetings were held to discuss business and to review the following changes in the district:

1. Restoration of porches at one of the houses in the district, the work consisting of replacement handrails, insect screens, framing members, and other existing or former features. The owner intends that the replacement materials will reproduce or closely match the original fabric. The Commission issued Certificates of Non-Applicability and Appropriateness for the proposed work, provided that detailed drawings and a comprehensive list of materials are approved by the Commission prior to commencement of construction work.
2. Rectification of improperly installed windows and trim that contradicted conditions previously stipulated by the Commission. The Commission reached an agreement the property owner with respect to the nonconforming features.

## REPORT OF THE WESTON/MWRA WORKING GROUP

As stated in the Memorandum of Agreement between the MWRA and the Selectmen of the Town of Weston, "The Weston/MWRA Working Group (WG) serves as the primary forum for public participation during environmental review, design construction and operation of MWRA projects in Weston." The WG is composed of Town residents who are appointed by the Selectmen and who represent pertinent Town Boards and Committees (Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Forest & Trail Association) as well as concerned neighbors and abutters. The WG serves as a conduit between the MWRA, the Town and the Selectmen.

The MWRA projects in Weston are construction of the MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel and the Tunnel's various vertical shafts, two water tanks on MWRA land off of Loring Road, and the water tank at the Norumbega Reservoir. During 2003 a number of construction milestones were reached.

### Loring Road Tanks and Weston Reservoir

Construction of the two Loring Road tanks was completed, the tanks successfully tested and put into operation, substituting for the Weston Reservoir. As per plan the Weston Reservoir was then taken off-line and put into "emergency use" status. The last leg of the MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel was completed and put into operation. This allowed shutting down of the Weston Aqueduct, which the MWRA plans to repair and rehabilitate.

### **Landscaping at the Loring Road Site**

A subcommittee was formed of WG members and other interested and knowledgeable persons to advise and consult on landscaping and tree planting. A landscaping plan was proposed and approved by the Working Group. Planting at the Loring Road site was started this past fall and is planned to continue in the spring of 2004.

The success of the Landscaping Subcommittee has led to the Selectmen's appointment of the group as a permanent Town Tree Advisory Group.

### **Public Access to the Weston Reservoir**

The 1997 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Town and the MWRA provided for public access to the reservoirs upon completion of tank construction. A Public Access Committee, a sub-committee of the WG was formed to negotiate maintenance responsibilities and access rules at the Weston Reservoir and environs. The sub-committee, headed by Kathleen McCahan, consists of the Chair of the Conservation Committee, the President of the Forest and Trail Association, some other members of the WG plus other interested citizens. Upon completion of deliberations, a one year Public Access MOA, with five year renewal extensions was negotiated and signed between the MWRA and the Town Selectmen. Details are discussed in the MWRA Public Access Committee Report which follows this report.

### **Norumbega Reservoir Replacement Tank**

Most of the MWRA construction activity in Town this past year was in connection with the Norumbega Reservoir Replacement Tank. As of this writing (early January, '04) two of the three cells of the tank are complete. Completion of the third and final cell is scheduled for 2004. The completed cells have been leak tested, and were put into service upon the recent completion of the MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel. Both the Hultman Aqueduct and the MetroWest Tunnel are currently supplying the Tank. After completion of the new water supply disinfection plant, now under construction in Marlborough, the Hultman will be taken out of service temporarily for repairs and rehabilitation.

### **Public Complaints and Remedies**

During the summer and fall of 2003, attempts were made by the construction contractor to make up time lost caused by weather delays etc. by requesting permission to work on a number of Saturdays. Similar requests at the Weston Reservoir Tanks construction site were successfully dealt with by negotiation of temporary rules between the contractor, the Town Manager and the Working Group. However, at the Norumbega site, proximity to neighbors led to complaints of disturbing noise. The problem was solved by negotiating the disabling of equipment back-up alarms and substituting human traffic coordinators during the weekend work.

### **Landscaping at the Norumbega Site**

The recently appointed Tree Advisory Group, in conjunction with the MWRA's landscaping contractor; the Public Access Subcommittee (*see following report*) and the Working Group, created a plan for the Norumbega landscaping. As of this writing, soil is being banked against the side walls of the Tank as well as on the top. Planting of grasses, trees and shrubs will start in the spring as will changes in fencing etc. negotiated by the Access Subcommittee.

If all continues according to schedule, the role of the Weston/MWRA Working Group should end in 2004 after functioning for over 10 years.

## REPORT OF THE MWRA PUBLIC ACCESS GROUP

As noted in the Weston/MWRA Working Group report, most of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) construction projects located in Weston will be completed by the end of 2004. As part of the original agreements with the MWRA, a committee made up of Weston residents and MWRA staff is developing arrangements for public access for all MWRA land in Weston.

The MWRA has custody and control of some of the most scenic land in Weston:

Weston Aqueduct including Loring Road site	75 acres
Weston Reservoir	215 acres
Norumbega Reservoir and Schenck's Pond	160 acres
Hultman Aqueduct	205 acres
Shaft 5, 5A area (on the Charles River)	3 acres

### Loring Road

This is the first property where construction of storage tanks has been completed. There has been public access since 2001. The landscaping reflects the original character of a New England forest with ledge outcrops and with meadow grasses and native wildflowers growing on top of the tanks. Trails that had been disrupted during construction were re-established in consultation with the Weston Forest and Trail Association.

### Weston Reservoir

The Weston Reservoir area has always been open to the public. The change at this location consisted of a re-allocation of management roles, with a goal of protecting the watershed, while allowing public access, while minimizing MWRA staff and expenses. A one-year renewable Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) outlines the responsibilities of the Town and the Authority. The MWRA continues to be responsible for water levels, water quality and for maintenance inside the protective fence.

The town and volunteer groups have undertaken management tasks outside the fence, including mowing, trail maintenance and trash management. A new Friends of the Reservoir group has raised funds to provide a successful Mutt Mitt program (pick up pet waste) and other amenities. Volunteers have also designed new signage and educational pamphlets for the area.

### Norumbega Reservoir

The Weston Selectmen and the MWRA are now negotiating a public access plan for the Norumbega Reservoir site, which is expected to result in an MOA similar to the one in effect for the Weston Reservoir. Full implementation of this agreement will not be possible until the completion of renovation work still to be done on the Hultman Aqueduct, which will take several more years.

### Guiding Principles

In thinking about public access to the Norumbega site, the Public Access Committee has adopted several guidelines:

1. Protection of the primary water supply in the tank and tunnel, of the water quality in the back-up reservoir, and of the watershed and underlying aquifer;
2. Creation of a recreation plan that provides healthy, safe, passive recreational opportunities for people while protecting the wildlife habitat and the environment;
3. Restoration of the site and its entrances consistent with the character of the scenic roads that surround the site;

4. Reestablishment of trail linkages with existing conservation easements and conservation land and restoration of the site as an area of natural open space. It is anticipated that there will be access from Oak Street, Wellesley Street and Glen Road when all work is completed.

It is hoped the formal MOA with details of public access will be finalized during the year and signed by the end of construction in 2004.

### **REPORT OF THE TREE ADVISORY GROUP**

The Weston Tree Advisory Group ("TAG") was established by the Selectmen in November 2002 and its five members met monthly through 2003. The group's primary mission is to identify suitable locations for trees and shrubs to be planted in the south side of the town as partial mitigation for the loss of 30 acres of forest land due to construction of the MWRA tank. The trees are paid for through a special mitigation fund set up by the MWRA in its Memorandum of Agreement with the Town, and labor is supplied by volunteers and the Town's Department of Public Works. 2003 plantings included Donald Wyman crab apples at the intersection of Newton and Wellesley Streets, as well as specimen trees at the Field School: Weeping Beech and Ginkgo.

To raise awareness of the importance of trees in the community, TAG sponsored an Arbor Day celebration at the Field School on April 25th. Members of the TAG set up stations in front of the school where small groups of students got hands-on experience in soil amendments, planting and watering. Selectman Doug Gillespie read the Arbor Day proclamation in the gym at an all-school assembly. As a result of these planting and educational efforts, the TAG applied for and received Weston's first declaration of "Tree City USA" from the National Arbor Day Foundation. Weston will be specially honored as a First Tree City at a statewide forum on April 16th, 2004.

Other functions included a review (for the Planning Board) of the 1,000-plus street trees proposed for removal by NSTAR, and work on site with NSTAR's arborists and tree crews to save healthy canopy trees whenever possible. Thirty hardwood logs were kept from the chipper, and instead split for firewood by Land's Sake. In addition, TAG was asked to review and make recommendations on two public planting plans: 1) the MWRA tank surfaces and 2) two intersections along South Avenue re-constructed by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. In preparation for 2004 plantings, the group did inventories of planting needs at Case Park, Weston High School and two sections of Glen Road.

### **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board is responsible for the review of land division, either though the construction of a subdivision road or through submission of an Approval Not Required Plan ("ANR") under the Subdivision Control Law, if sufficient frontage exists. In addition, the Board reviews and approves proposals for new residential development constructed on a Scenic Roads; for new houses that exceed a certain square footage; for commercial projects; and for tree and stone wall removals provided that they occur within the Town's right of way on a designated Scenic Road. In 2003, the Board held 32 formal meetings, numerous public hearings and 23 site walks.

In 2003 the Board:

- 1) reviewed and approved one Site Plan Approval Application for new residential construction under the Scenic Road provision to the Zoning Bylaw;
- 2) reviewed and approved 16 Site Plan Approval Applications for new residential construction under the Residential Gross Floor Area ("RGFA") provision to the Zoning Bylaw. Of these 16 "RGFA" applications, 12 were for new construction along the Town's Scenic Roads;
- 3) reviewed and approved seven amendments to previously issued Approvals for new construction along Scenic Roads and/or proposed under the "RGFA" provision to the Zoning Bylaw;
- 4) endorsed five Approval Not Required Plans under the Subdivision Control Law;
- 5) reviewed and gave Site Plan Approval for one day camp;
- 6) reviewed and gave Site Plan approval to six projects under the Town's General Bylaw, the Scenic Road Bylaw, including several large proposals for tree removal by NSTAR;
- 7) reviewed and approved two Flexible Development Subdivision Plans;
- 8) reviewed and approved one Special Permit in the Personal Wireless Service Overlay District for improved telecommunications in the Town;
- 9) proposed one amendment to the Zoning Bylaw

#### Zoning Amendments

The Planning Board proposed and held a public hearing on a "housekeeping" zoning amendment which provided internal consistency within the Zoning Bylaw by making the description of the Personal Wireless Service Overlay District I boundary conform to the District Boundary changes voted on at the 2001 Annual Town Meeting.

#### Approval Not Required Plans

Submittal of an Approval Not Required Plan to the Planning Board for its endorsement is a means by which a landowner can subdivide his property, provided there is sufficient frontage, as determined by the Zoning Bylaw. The Planning Board endorsed 5 "ANR" Plans under the Subdivision Control Law, for the following new or reconfigured lots:

- a reconfiguration of three lots on Highland Street into two lots;
- a reconfiguration of two lots on Meadowbrook Road and Loring Road into two lots;
- subdivision of an existing building lot at 479 North Avenue for a total of three buildable lots;

#### Site Plan Approval under the Residential Gross Floor Area

Sixteen projects that exceeded the Residential Gross Floor Area Ratio (RGFA) for a house greater than 10% of its lot size or a house that was greater than 6,000 SF were reviewed and approved by the Board.

**Teardowns:** Seven of these applications and approvals were given to projects that included a teardown of the original smaller home. The teardowns include:

80 Loring Road  
805 Boston Post Road  
320 Conant Road

78 Merriam Street  
370 Concord Road  
78 Oak Street

One proposed teardown, 25 October Lane, is still in the review stage, based upon changes requested by the owner.

**Vacant Parcels:** Projects that involved construction on vacant land under the "RGFA" include: Lot 6 Coburn's Barn Subdivision, 314 Glen Road, 3 Round Hill Road, Lot 2 Amanda Lane, 36 Love Lane, Lots 2 & 3 of 479 North Avenue), and 64 Highland Street.

The parcel at 479 North Avenue was divided into three house lots. The historic house located on this parcel will be moved from its present location to Lot 2, abutting North Avenue. The

house will be rehabilitated and expanded. A Preservation Restriction has been placed on the historic barn on Lot 1 (No. 3) Round Hill Road

*Other:* the large red barn at 154 Church Street was approved for renovation as a residential structure, with storage for equipment underneath. The Planning Board worked with the Applicant to ensure that the front elevation will look like a barn.

Conditions placed on all these projects include elimination of unnecessary exterior lighting, reducing the elevation of the house, maintenance of existing vegetation and addition of new vegetative buffers, reduction in the amount of impervious surface and management of stormwater.

The Board granted amendments to previously issued Special Permits or Site Plan Approvals for the following properties: 299 Meadowbrook Road, 148 Highland Street, 81 Chestnut Street, 56 Westland Road, 5 Newton Street, 455 Concord Road, 245 Winter Street and 8 Saddle Hill Road.

#### Site Plan Approval Under the Scenic Road Bylaw

Lot A-2 Summer Street received Site Plan Approval for construction of a new house on a Scenic Road.

#### Subdivision Approval

The Board approved two subdivisions under the Flexible Development provision to the Zoning Bylaw. The Kovar parcel at 296 Merriam Street was divided into two buildable lots with a third 5.19 acre lot conveyed to Weston Forest and Trail Association, Inc.

The Teller property at 787 Boston Post Road was divided into two buildable lots. One of the parcels contains a house dating from the 1770's. The Town, using Community Preservation Act funding, voted to purchase a Preservation Restriction on this house. The Weston Historical Commission is currently working with the owner on a Preservation Restriction.

#### Scenic Road Bylaw

The Board reviewed and approved removal of trees or stone walls within the public right of way on Scenic Roads under Article XXVI of the Town's General Bylaws at 118 Newton Street, 168 Conant Road and the reconstruction of a stone wall at the corner of South Avenue and Wellesley Street. A proposed relocation of a driveway and removal of trees is under review for 10 Ripley Lane.

As part of its newly created vegetation management program, NSTAR proposed removal of several hundred trees along the Town's Scenic Roads. Roads affected by this program include Glen Road, Summer Street, Winter Street, Wellesley Street, Ridgeway Road, Merriam Street, Concord Road, Crescent Street, and Highland Street. According to NSTAR, tree limbs have interfered with the power lines, causing outages. Board members, with the assistance of the Town's Tree Advisory Group, spent many hours identifying those trees proposed for removal, and those that could remain with limbing. Public Hearings on this project were attended by many concerned residents.

#### Non Residential

Below the Rim Camp, a Summer Day Camp to be held at Regis College was reviewed and approved by the Board.

#### Telecommunications

The Town issued a Request for Proposal for construction of two structures capable of supporting antenna for cellular use at the Weston Police Station Parcel at 180 Boston Post Road. This parcel is within the Personal Wireless Service Overlay District voted by Town Meeting. AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC was awarded the bid and a contract was signed between the Town and AT&T for use of the land for construction of a tower. The Planning Board issued a Special Permit to AT&T

Wireless PCS, LLC and Sprint Spectrum for construction of a monopole and associated antenna concealed within a 120 foot flagpole. The flagpole will be located in the eastern portion of the Police Station parcel and screened by existing and proposed vegetation. The Planning Board worked closely with the Town of Weston Police Chief and Department of Public Works Director on this project.

Other

Planning Board staff and consultants continued their practice of meeting with developers and prospective applicants on Thursday afternoon to explain the Site Plan Approval process for new construction under the Residential Gross Floor Area and Scenic Road Bylaw. During the past year, most Public Hearings were closed after one night and the review period reduced, on average, to 3 months, from time of submission of an application. In the Site Plan Approval process, the Board has tried diligently to balance the needs of an Applicant while protecting a neighborhood. The process has become more collaborative and efficient.

Pre-conference meetings were held with Applicants to discuss a proposed four lot subdivision on Highland Street.

Preliminary discussions are underway with a potential buyer of the 40 acre parcel owned by the Paine Estate on Highland Street and Boston Post Road. While an earlier concept plan presented by the Paine trustees showed 23 single family homes, the present concept under consideration by this developer is for age restricted housing in the center of the parcel and may include a small clubhouse, tennis courts and swimming pool. This use will require a zoning change.

The Board assisted the Zoning Board of Appeals in a review of the Site Plan for a proposed project under Chapter 40B, affordable housing legislation, for the parcel at 809-811 Boston Post Road. The project includes construction of four town houses, rehabilitation and conversion of the existing historic barn into two dwelling units, and rehabilitation of the existing historic house into two affordable housing units. Planning Board members worked with the Applicant on redesign of the site, building elevations and drainage and landscape issues and provided a memo to the Zoning Board of Appeals recommending conditions for the Comprehensive Permit. Town Meeting approved use of Community Preservation Funds for this project for both the preservation of the existing historic barn and house and the provision of the affordable housing units.

Board Members reviewed an Environmental Notification Form for a proposal in the City of Waltham by Sam Parks Associates that will have a potential impact on the Town of Weston. The developer is proposing 650,000 SF of additional office space off Green Street that currently supports an automobile junkyard. A major component to this proposal is a reconfiguration of the traffic flow so that traffic from Route 117 can directly access the Route 20 rotary with the construction of additional ramps and new traffic signals controlling access to the rotary. Board members and the Board of Selectmen have expressed their concern to various State Agencies involved in the project and to the City of Waltham.

Finally, the Planning Board lost one of its members this spring. Kate Detwiler died unexpectedly. She is missed as a valued colleague and friend.

## REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES

### REPORT OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC or the Council) is the regional planning and economic development district representing 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston. The Council is made up of 101 municipal government representatives, 21 gubernatorial appointees, and ten state and three city of Boston officials. An executive committee oversees agency operations and appoints an executive director. The agency employs approximately 30 professional and administrative staff. Funding comes from contracts with government agencies and private entities, foundation grants, and a per-capita assessment charged to municipalities within the district.

In the past year, the Council has focused on initiatives that respond to regional challenges, including:

- **Municipal planning:** A program under Executive Order 418 provides which provides communities with up to \$30,000 in state funding to obtain an overview of local planning issues, including housing, economic development, natural resources, and transportation.
- **Bringing advanced technology to cities and towns in the region:** a contract with Pictometry International will provide aerial photographic images that can be used by municipal departments including, police and fire departments, assessors, planners, engineers, conservation commissions, first-responders and other local decision-makers.
- **Adoption of smart growth principles:** principles of good planning practice to encourage sustainable patterns of growth throughout the metro Boston region.
- **MetroFuture: Making a Greater Boston Region:** In October 2003, MAPC launched a new civic process, called MetroFuture, to create an updated regional vision and growth strategy for metropolitan Boston. To learn more about MetroFuture visit [www.metrofuture.org](http://www.metrofuture.org).
- **Metro Data Center:** An official US Census affiliate which helps to distribute demographic and economic data and housing profile information throughout the region.
- **Transportation planning:** a 25-year Regional Transportation Plan, an annual Transportation Improvement Program, and a plan of transportation spending priorities for the region, including transportation spending criteria, which take into account environmental, economic, and equity considerations.
- **Metropolitan Highway System Advisory Board:** MAPC staffs this board, established in 1997 by the Commonwealth to advise the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority on land use, air rights, zoning, and environmental impact issues associated with development of land owned by the authority.
- **Regional Services Consortiums:** Four regional consortiums collectively purchased \$18 million of office supplies and highway maintenance services for its 31 member municipalities. The project also facilitates collegial forums among members' chief administrative officers focused on collaborative problem solving and resource sharing.

For more details about these and other activities please visit [www.mapc.org](http://www.mapc.org).

### REPORT OF THE METROWEST GROWTH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Established in 1985, the MetroWest Growth Management Committee (MWGMC) is an advisory coalition of the Towns of Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Natick, Southborough, Sudbury, Wayland, Wellesley, Weston, the City of Marlborough, and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). The Committee facilitates inter-local collaborative planning and problem solving to enhance the quality of life and economic competitiveness of the MetroWest region.

One selectman/mayor or city council member and one planning board member represent each member community. The executive director of MAPC is an *ex officio* member of the Committee. Funding for the MWGMC comes from member assessments, grants and contracts. MWGMC maintains an office in Natick and employs a staff of two to deliver core services to member communities. Weston's representative to the Committee is Selectman Douglas Gillespie. Weston's assessment, which includes membership in the MetroWest Regional Services Consortium, was \$7,462 in Fiscal Year 2003 and will be \$3,960 in Fiscal 2004.

Over the past year the MWGMC provided a variety of services for the ten communities that comprise the Metro West sub-region of MAPC:

- **Regional Impact Review Program** reviews proposed developments to assess regional impacts and to influence local and state permitting of development.
- **Technical Assistance and Information Services** provided to our members. In addition to the information briefings that are the focus of some Monthly Leadership Forums, our services include maintaining the only regional database that tracks current development. We also maintain extensive files documenting the history of significant development through the MetroWest area.
- **Monthly Planners' Roundtable** for local planners and planning board members. The Roundtable provides staff and officials with technical information and training on planning and growth issues. Similar to the community exchange portion of the Monthly Leadership Forum, Roundtables also provide planners with the opportunity to share expertise, experience, and questions with their colleague. Weston's planner, Susan Haber, is a regular Roundtable participant.
- **Monthly Leadership Forum and Community Exchange**, held 11 times per year, bring together locally elected officials from MetroWest region on a regular basis to discuss regional concerns. The Forum and Community Exchange also offers local officials an opportunity to brief each other and to exchange thoughts and ideas about local issues with their colleagues.
- **MetroWest Transportation Taskforce** focuses specifically on analyzing and advocating for MWGMC communities on transportation matters. Chaired by former state legislator John Stasik, the Transportation Task Force advocates for improved transportation services to the region, and strategizes to influence transportation planning and decision-making done by the Boston MPO.

MWGMC regular meetings and forums have provided communities with insights and lessons from each other through discussion of ongoing activities, issues, and strategies.

Our meetings and forums included discussions on a variety of topics including: zoning reform legislation; demographic and employment projections and analyses for the region; a Transportation and Community and Systems Preservation project that features a Geographic Information System (GIS) based analytical tool to show the relationship between land use and transportation; and Pictometry Imagery and Software Tools discussed in the MAPC Report above.

In addition, MWGMC hosted a transportation investment exercise in which participants developed a list of transportation priorities for the sub-region as input to the State funding organization, and provided Metro West's input to the Boston MPO's regional transportation planning processes.

Our ties with the MetroWest legislative delegation are strong. The Annual Legislative Breakfast provided MetroWest with an opportunity to discuss and make recommendations to legislators regarding the FY2004 budget, local aid, Chapter 70 and Chapter 90 funding. Other **Legislative Activities** included our Legislative Caucus, which was attended by ten members from the Massachusetts Senate and House. This annual event provides MetroWest local officials with a forum to exchange ideas directly with state legislators, and has proven to be a valuable event for both state and local officials. Our engagement with state officials expanded over the past year to include a special forum focused on state aid, at which Lieutenant Governor Healey discussed the prospective budget with MWGMC members. This work was continued at a "Budget Strategy Roundtable" held in Sudbury.

## PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

### REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTION SERVICES

The values for 2003 shown in the table on the following two pages indicate an above average year for Inspectional Services Personnel. A highlight of construction activity was the groundbreaking at the Brook School Apartments on 44 School Street. This project will add 24 apartments to the existing multiple dwelling project. Notable construction completions during 2003 were the commercial building by Liberty Mutual on Riverside Road, the McDowell Athletic Building at the Rivers School and two of the Town's elementary schools, Country and Woodland on Alphabet Lane.

At the 2003 Annual Town meeting, the town accepted a Massachusetts law that allows the Board of Assessors to value new construction as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, rather than waiting for the traditional January 1<sup>st</sup> valuation date. As part of instituting this new practice Inspectional Services alerts the Assessors' Office of all construction completions as they occur to allow the Assessors to take full advantage of this law for the Town.

	2003			2002		
	Permits <i>(Number)</i>	Est. Value <i>(Dollars)</i>	Fees <i>(Dollars)</i>	Permits <i>(Number)</i>	Est. Value <i>(Dollars)</i>	Fees <i>(Dollars)</i>
Single Family Residence	27	\$ 22,406,625	\$ 224,073	27	\$ 19,647,072	\$ 196,511
Multiple Dwelling District	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Building-Commercial Additions/Alterations/ Repairs - Residential	1	4,346,650	n/a	4	10,286,444	93,400
Repairs - Commercial	195	25,132,569	251,768	169	22,699,900	229,497
*Other Construction/ Residential	10	2,937,970	29,381	8	500,500	4,805
*Other Construction/ Commercial/Municipal	178	3,600,285	40,431	208	3,257,959	37,291
Miscellaneous and Periodic Inspections	23	681,978	7,025	23	245,315	2,665
Total Construction	79	-	5,465	89	-	6,810
Gas Permits	513	\$ 59,106,050	\$ 558,143	528	\$ 56,637,190	\$ 570,979
Plumbing Permits	349	-	13,593	363	-	13,884
Wiring Permits	381	-	25,683	381	-	27,658
Total	575	-	45,945	612	-	69,132
*Demolition (included above)	1,305	\$ 85,221		1,356	\$ 110,674	

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Activation of Weston's Emergency Management System was not required in 2003. Our Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan was reviewed by members of the Town's Emergency Management Team and updated with the State. This plan will be critical in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency in Weston.

Late in the year a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was formed for Weston. Although similar in membership to our emergency management team, the LEPC is specifically charged with managing hazardous materials incidents. State certification, which has been applied for, will allow the town to become eligible for future funding as well as for state and federal reimbursement in the event of a serious hazardous materials release in Weston.

## **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

In calendar year 2003 the Weston Fire Department responded to 1,990 calls for service. We were fortunate again this year that there were no fire fatalities in Weston; however we did suffer two fires involving serious loss. I cannot stress enough the need for all of us to continue to make a conscious effort to protect ourselves from the dangers of fire including installing and testing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; and having and practicing a home escape plan.

In 2003 the Fire Department purchased a new breathing air compressor and self contained breathing apparatus through a competitive grant which we received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Thanks are due to the Gifford School and The Cambridge School of Weston for their generous donations towards the Town's ten percent match to this grant. Another grant will be used to replace our aging personal protective clothing and to install vehicle exhaust extraction systems in both of our fire stations. These two items will go a long way to increase the health and safety of our firefighters, as well as all those who visit our stations.

Although fire prevention is a critical part of our mission, reduction in overtime funding has forced us to reduce some of these activities. We continue to conduct some school visits, and fire safety inspections. These inspections include oil burning equipment, liquefied propane installations, home fire alarm systems, underground fuel tank removals, and blasting operations. In addition, quarterly inspections of nursing care and other facilities were conducted as required by law.

The Town's fleet of fire apparatus continues to be maintained by our department mechanic John Finnerty. John's personal concern for the readiness of our apparatus has always ensured we have the tools to do our job.

During the year, Firefighters Alan Lazzari and J. Terrance Notartomaso retired. FF Lazzari had served as Weston's Superintendent of Fire Alarm, a function that has been taken over by Firefighter/EMT Paul Nicholas. The maintenance of the town's system of fire alarm boxes continues to be one of the most reliable means to summon help in the event of a fire or other emergency.

Our Emergency Ambulance Service accounted for fewer than 50% of our calls. The department's Emergency Medical Technicians and First Responders continue to update their training and skills to meet the changing demands placed on them. With the loss of one of our hospital based paramedic providers in June, we realized the importance of taking a more active role in securing this life saving service to our residents. I believe that a fire based system is the best

solution to this problem and am currently working with several area fire departments to ensure we will continue to provide this lifesaving service. As we continue to see more defibrillators placed in the community we cannot stress enough the importance of bystander CPR. Residents wishing to take a class in CPR or learn more about defibrillators are encouraged to contact the fire department.

The tough financial times of 2003 forced us to rethink and retool the services that we provide to the residents of Weston. Last year I mentioned the need to evaluate those services and reach a compromise between what we have had in the past and what we can afford in the future. Although we were able to fill one additional position this year, it is becoming more and more difficult for us to provide the depth of coverage that we have been able to provide to our residents in the past. The time has come where we need to increase the number of personnel who are available to respond to incidents in order to continue delivering safe, effective, and timely emergency service to the community. Any additional cuts to our budget are certain to have a negative impact on both resident and firefighter safety.

We look back with gratitude to all of those who have supported and assisted this Department in many ways. Citizen support and cooperation is essential if we are to continue to keep our Town fire safe and maintain an effective level of service. To the citizens of Weston, the Honorable Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Town Manager, and the members of the Weston Fire Department who have all worked so diligently, I extend my sincere appreciation and thanks.

#### 2003 DEPARTMENT STATISTICS:

(Year ending December 31, 2003)

In 2003 the Weston Fire Department responded to 165 Bell Alarms and 1,825 Still Alarms for a total of 1,990 incidents as follows:

Fire Incidents	===== 145
Ambulance Incidents	===== 947
Other Emergency Services	===== 898

#### Mutual Aid:

Received from neighboring communities	===== 54 times
Provided to our neighbors	===== 102 times

The Emergency Ambulance Service responded to 947 incidents as follows:

Responded To:	Transport		Transport Not Required
	To Hospitals	From Hospitals	
774 Medical Emergencies	542	232	
173 Motor Vehicle Accidents	110	63	

#### COMPARISON OF ALARMS ANSWERED -- 10 YEAR PERIOD

Year	No. of Alarms	Year	No. of Alarms	Period	Average No. of Alarms per Year
1994	1,418	1999	1,773	10 Year Avg.	1,770 Incidents
1995	1,535	2000	1,883		
1996	1,825	2001	2,080	5 Year Avg.	1,906 Incidents
1997	1,657	2002	1,803		
1998	1,740	2003	1,990	3 Year Avg.	1,958 Incidents

Permits Issued Pursuant To Massachusetts General Laws:

Burning Permits	486
Blasting Permits	9
Carpet Installations	0
LP Gas Storage Permits	28
Tank Truck Inspections	0
Cutting & Welding Permits	4
Explosives Storage Permits	0
Flammable Liquid Storage Permits	0
Underground Tank Removal Permits	13
Oil Burner Installations/ Alterations	38
Fire Alarm Systems - New Construction	116
Fire Alarm Systems - Residential Sales	218

Fiscal Year 2003 Revenue Turned Over To The Town Treasurer:

Fees for Ambulance Services Rendered	== \$	173,861.44
Fees for Services To Mass. Turnpike Authority	== \$	21,562.50
All Other Revenues Received	== \$	124.00
Total Revenue Year 2001	== \$	195,547.49

DEPARTMENT APPARATUS INVENTORY

<u>APPARATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>YEAR PURCHASED</u>
Car - 2	= 4 WD Expedition	= 2003
Car - 3	= 4 WD Expedition	= 1998
M-1	= 4 WD Pickup Truck	= 1987
Engine - 1	= 1,250 GPM Pumper	= 1996
Engine - 2	= 1,000 GPM Pumper	= 1990
Engine - 3	= 1,250 GPM Pumper	= 2002
Engine - 4	= 1,000 GPM Pumper	= 1985
Engine - 5	= 4 WD Brush Truck	= 1991
Rescue - 3	= Technical Rescue Unit	= 1999
Rescue - 4	= Technical Rescue Unit	= 1970
Ladder - 1	= 85' Aerial Ladder	= 1977
Chief's Car	= 4 WD Explorer	= 1999
Ambulance - 1	= 1999 Horton ERV	= 1999
Ambulance - 2	= 1992 Braun ERV	= 1992
Boat & Trailer	= 14' Flat Bottom	= 1973
Fire Alarm Truck	= 36' Aerial Bucket	= 1981

## REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2003 there have been some significant changes in our Town and our Police Department. In January Sergeant Tom Healey retired after 40 years of service to the town. He filled many different job descriptions and titles over those years, but will always be remembered as "The Sarge." We thank Tom for his years of service; he will be missed. Bob Millen, who served as Community Services Officer for a number of years, has been promoted to the vacant Sergeant's position; Keith Kasprzak filled the C.S.O. position and our newest officer, David Spellman, came on board from the Franklin Police Department where he served as a police dispatcher for three years. Welcome Officer Spellman, we are expecting good things from you.



*New Chief Steven Shaw is sworn in by  
Town Clerk M. Elizabeth Nolan*

More change: in July Chief Charles Mayo retired after six years as Weston's Chief of Police. We all join in wishing him a happy and healthy retirement. Deputy Chief Roland Anderson took on the role of acting Chief while the Board of Selectmen screened, interviewed and hired a replacement chief. Steven Shaw, formerly a Lieutenant with Weston P.D. and a twenty three year veteran of the department has been named Police Chief. The resulting vacancy in the lieutenant's position will not be filled. This past year brought home to us once more the fact that we need to find creative ways to do more with less.

In order to preserve patrol coverage, a function that we have targeted as a number one priority, and live within the current budget restraints, it was necessary to eliminate the position of Traffic Officer, which had been created in 1997 to address specific traffic related issues on a full-time basis, and one Inspector's position. The officers filling these two positions returned to patrol duty to help fill shift vacancies and reduce overtime costs. Although the effects of the past few years of economic downturn continue to put a strain on the budget, we are committed to looking for ways to reinstate police functions that may have been lost as a result.

As each year passes, we experience leaps in technological capabilities that previously were either not possible or prohibitively expensive. A small Homeland Security Grant enabled us to outfit all of our sector cars with laptop computers, giving officers in the field access to the Registry of Motor Vehicles database, Criminal Histories System Board information and Board of Probation data as well as secure communications car to car and town to town. These units also allow us to broadcast alert fliers and terrorist bulletins and to disseminate up to date information on criminal activity occurring within the town as well as surrounding communities much faster than ever before while keeping the radio traffic to a minimum. We are looking forward to integrating the upcoming town-wide GIS mapping program with this new technology to find more effective ways of analyzing data and providing our service of protection of lives and property.

During 2003 the police department received and investigated or responded to over 9,800 calls for service and our cruisers traveled more than 200,000 miles to carry out patrol, investigation of complaints and crime, training and prosecution of offenders. The number of miles traveled is much lower than in past years as we attempt to keep the high operating and maintenance costs of the fleet under control. Because of our proximity to major routes and the heavy traffic volume associated with that distinction, the police department recorded 322 accidents; seventy of those were minor in nature and required no written police report. Of the 252 accidents that required police reports there were no fatalities, no pedestrian injuries and only one accident involving a bicyclist. Traffic remains one of the more pressing issues handled by the police department and we will continue to make resolution of problems related to traffic a high priority.

This year an agreement was signed allowing cell towers to be placed on the police department lot in order to satisfy the Town's responsibility to provide space for wireless communications companies to expand their coverage areas. Some time in 2004 the public may notice that an odd looking tree has appeared in the rear lot of the station. No, that is not creative landscaping but you will no doubt find that your cell phone works better as you pass by. Susan Haber and the Planning Board were instrumental in overseeing this project and protecting the functionality of our public safety building. For that we are grateful, thank you Susan. I would also like to thank the various Boards, Departments and individuals who have worked so hard to assist the police and keep our community operating by working to find solution for those tough issues and problems that we are faced with on a regular basis.



*Police officers at the Swearing-In*

### 2003 Police Department Statistics

Automobile accidents investigated	322	Orders violated	1
Persons reported injured	80	E 911 Emergency calls recorded	525
Accidents involving bicycles	1	Fire department, assist on calls	
Accidents involving pedestrians	0	(other than rescue calls)	307
Accidents - fatal	0	Lockouts, auto/home	34
Accidents involving deer	38	Lost property found in Weston	50
Automobile thefts	0	Obscene & Harassing phone calls	
Burglar alarms investigated	1,416	reported	34
Officers responding to burglar alarms	2,800	Street lights reported out	375
Complaints and investigations	9,864	Sudden deaths investigated	9
Complaints referred to Dog Officer	110	Traffic warnings sent to Registry	1,519
Animal Complaints Investigated by Police Officer	205	Unlawful Credit Card Use & Checks	25
Report of dog bites	6	Civil citations forwarded to Registry	1,153
Domestic abuse orders	61	Trespassing	7
Emergency orders served	3	Acts of vandalism reported	27
		Mailbox Damage	41

### Major Crimes Reported to Police in 2003

Assault and battery	7	Unlawful entry - no force	10
Burglaries reported	7	Attempts	4
Forcible entry	4	Larcenies reported	47

### Motor Vehicle Violation/Complaints - 2003

Disobey signs, signals, markings	56	Operating, after license suspended	66
Fail to display plates	61	Operating uninsured motor vehicle	38
Fail to keep right	6	Operating, no display of	
Fail to keep right, view obstructed	3	registration sticker	13
Fail to yield at intersection	37	Defective equipment	189
Stop sign violation, Town road	117	Operating unregistered motor vehicle	79
Not wearing proper seatbelt restraint	64	Operating, violation of Town bylaws	18
Operating, no license/registration in possession	90	Operating, violation of	
Fail to slow at intersection	18	DPW rules/regulations	13
Fail to signal before stopping/turning	17	Speeding	1,268
Fail to restrain child while operating motor vehicle	6	Fail to stop - Red light	94
Non-inspected motor vehicle	720	Miscellaneous	426
		Total:	3,399

### Revenues Generated by the Police Department in Calendar Year 2003

1. Reimbursed from Commonwealth Of Mass for Career Ed Incentive Plan:	\$120,951
2. Parking fines paid	4,870
3. Citations processed through Registry of Motor Vehicles, deemed civil assessments, minor in nature, minor traffic violations	105,390
4. Second District Court of Eastern Middlesex at Waltham, fines and assessments:	10,420
5. False burglar alarm assessments:	210
6. Requests for copies of reports - insurance co. etc:	1,356
7. Fees collected for issuance of firearms permits:	2,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$245,497</b>

**Adult Arrests and Other Court Cases - 2003**

	Male	Female		Male	Female
Larceny of a MV	1		Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol	9	2
Assault and Battery Domestic	9	1	Operating after License Suspended	60	4
Assault and Battery	5	1	Operating Without Valid License	48	
Disturbing the Peace		2	Possession Class D -		
Minor Transporting Alcohol	10	1	Marijuana	15	
Larceny over \$250/Rec Stolen Property	2	2	Warrants Served	19	5
Violation of Protection Order	1		Total:	180	16
Trespass After Notice	1				

**Disposition of Arrests - 2003**

Dismissed- court cost	28
Arrest Turned over to other PD	17
Guilty	30
Responsible	26
Cont. without a Finding	17
Pre-Trial Probation	15
Sufficient Facts/Fine Assessment	38
Cases Cont. until 2004	25
<b>Total:</b>	<b>196</b>

**REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

Officer Keith Kasprzak is responsible for school related safety programs, police investigations and interventions with juveniles.

In November, Officer Kasprzak attended an intensive training program on the subject of "Responding to Missing and Abducted Children." The seminar covered family abduction, infant abduction, and reunification of missing children, non-family abduction and victim impact. Representatives of Federal agencies were also there to explain the resources that are available to communities that experience abductions. Since 25% of abducted children who are not found within one hour and 86% of those not found within 24 hours are never seen again, this training provided the department with tools for updating and improving our initial responses to abduction cases in order to increase recovery odds.

There were numerous incidents and investigations involving youths of both sexes. Predominant among them were: minors in possession of alcohol and/or marijuana, larceny, vandalism, threats, assault and batteries and Internet threats. Junior operator violations were higher than in previous years. These violations resulted in arrests, summonses, loss of licenses and/or probation. Many young offenders spent time performing Community Service. Many threats started on the Internet, usually through an instant messenger service.

The police department sponsored its seventh Weston High School student police internship, with Brett Yogel, Ashley Kalakowsky and Nicholas Shea learning about patrol procedures, firearms training, investigative techniques and court proceedings. Our interns believed that theirs was the best internship in the whole school. Nicholas Shea worked as a summer special police officer on the Cape after his internship, and felt that his internship gave him a huge advantage starting his career in police work.

Officer Kasprzak conducted "Stranger Danger" and "Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety" classes at all K-4 classrooms. All students participated in emergency bus safety evacuation classes. K-5 students participated in Halloween safety classes, while students in Grades 6-8 had a talk on being responsible, having fun and staying out of trouble. Weston High School students were educated on drug and alcohol abuse in Health classes by Officer Kasprzak. He also worked closely with those responsible for the Country and Woodland Schools construction project, ensuring safety for the students, faculty and visitors.

Maintaining a strong bond between local youths and police is one of the most valuable relationships within a community. Parents with questions or concerns regarding youth behavior may contact Officer Kasprzak weekdays at the Weston Police Department

#### 2003 JUVENILE INVESTIGATIONS/COMPLAINTS\*

	Male	Female		Male	Female
Assault	5	2	Liquor Violations/ poss./use	14	11
Breaking & Entering			Pellet Gun	3	
Child in Need of Services		2	Possession of Dangerous Weapon	4	
Disorderly/Disturbance	4	2	Runaway	2	1
Drug Offenses	4		Miscellaneous	30	7
Domestic Complaints		1			
Fire Setting			Total:	66	26

Juvenile court appearances: 31

Settled at school or family level: 50

Referred to outside agency: 7

\*Note: For the purpose of this report, juvenile matters are reported for ages 7 through 17. State reporting is for ages 7 through 16.

#### REPORT OF THE PARKING CLERK

Major changes made by the Selectmen to the Town's parking regulations in 2003 were as follows:

- The fine for unauthorized use of a handicapped parking space was increased from \$25 to \$100 per offense. This change brings the town's parking code into compliance with State law. Drivers are asked to be note that when there are several handicapped spaces together, there is generally a narrower, striped space indicated between. Parking in such a striped space is a violation of the handicapped regulation and carries the same \$100 fine.
- Late fees of \$5.00 per ticket were imposed on any parking ticket not paid or appealed within 21 days of the day it was issued.
- Parking on the West side of Wellesley Street opposite the High School baseball field is now prohibited. This change was to provide greater safety for cars entering and exiting the driveways on that side of the road. Please observe the signs that are posted there.
- Changes in the parking arrangements were made at the High School and at Field School to allow for better and safer traffic flows at drop off and dismissal times. Visitor parking is no longer permitted in the circle immediately in front of the High School. Those spaces are now

restricted to handicapped persons and specific permits. At Field School further possible improvements are anticipated.

- The reopening of Country and Woodland Schools also resulted in new traffic patterns. Parking for visitors and faculty may now be accessed via the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right, with more parking on Alphabet Lane. The Parking arrangements at Woodland remain similar to what they were in the past.

Safety issues and traffic circulation are of primary concern in establishing and enforcing parking restrictions. Of greatest importance is the ability of emergency vehicles to gain unimpeded access to all areas of the town as needed.

Massachusetts law prohibits parking within 10 feet of a fire hydrant or 20 feet of an intersection, in crosswalks, on State Highways or in handicapped spaces without a handicap license or placard.

Residents are reminded that parking is not permitted on any Town Road unless there is a 10 foot-wide traffic lane in each direction. Also the 2-hour limitation remains in effect in Weston Center.

Vehicles violating these and other parking regulations may be ticketed by the Police Department. If a ticket remains unpaid and no request for a hearing has been made to the Parking Clerk within 21 days, additional fines may be imposed and, after notice to the vehicle's owner, the ticket is marked at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Once a vehicle has been marked at the Registry, the owner may not renew or his or her driver's license or vehicle registration until all fines and late fees plus a \$20.00 penalty have been paid and a release has been issued by the Parking Clerk.

Questions may be addressed to the Parking Clerk at Town Hall or to the Police Department. Information is also available at [www.weston.org](http://www.weston.org)

*The following is a summary of parking activity for the year ended June 30, 2003:*

Tickets issued	349	Fines levied:	\$5,015.00
Tickets dismissed:	40	Fines dismissed	630.00
Tickets paid	315	Total fines collected	\$4,870.00

#### PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

For a variety of reasons, the year was relatively quiet. We had anticipated that work would begin on a section of sidewalk on Highland Street, but because of other workload priorities, this did not go out for bid with drainage/roadway work until the fall. Work has started on this project, and should be completed by mid to late spring of 2004. This section will connect from around Dickson Meadow up to the lookout pull off.

If sufficient funds are available, we could anticipate construction of a section of walk on Ash Street from the Reservoir to Newton Street in late 2004 - early 2005.

We continue to have occasional dialogue with the Traffic Advisory Committee on traffic/safety issues.

## REPORT OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Overview** – Traffic continues to be on the minds of many Weston residents, and we added 14 new projects to our list in 2003, for a total of 100. Of these, 90 % had been completed by yearend.

**Lexington Street** – The committee continued to monitor the effectiveness of the speed humps installed on Lexington Street in 2001 and found the results to be consistent with previous data. The speed of vehicles has been significantly reduced and, in a survey conducted by the Selectmen, residents generally expressed their satisfaction with the speed humps.

**North Avenue and Church Street** – This project was completed earlier in the year and the design, created by the town's Department of Public Works, has met the objectives of this project. The pedestrian crossing of North Avenue is in place, and residents report a reduction in the speed of eastbound North Avenue traffic turning south into Church Street.

**Bogle Street** – This project involves a search for traffic mitigation measures needed to counteract increased traffic due to the new athletic center on the campus of the Rivers School. This project has been under investigation by our committee for almost two years and was held up during 2003 by a delay in the execution of an agreement by Rivers and the Town. The agreement (now in place) includes funding by Rivers for traffic mitigation, and this project will now be actively pursued in 2004.

**Radcliffe Road** – Neighbors petitioned the committee for a four-way STOP sign at the Radcliffe/Beaver intersection where visibility is poor. The committee asked the Department of Public Works to install warning signs with flags. Speed profile data taken before and after this installation indicated a noticeable reduction in traffic speeds, and this part of the project is now complete. We will continue to monitor traffic on Radcliffe Road for significant negative impact resulting from any mitigation measures on Bogle Street.

**Ox Bow Road** – Ox Bow Road residents asked the committee for help in dealing with high volume, speeding traffic on their road caused mainly by commuter traffic heading to and from the turnpike. During our preliminary discussions we encountered strong opposition from surrounding neighborhood groups and we have been working actively with all parties to come up with a solution acceptable to all. The intersection of Ox Bow and Intervale Roads is a part of this project.

**Sudbury Road** – High volume, speeding traffic brought Sudbury Road residents neighbors to the committee for help, and we have been actively investigating possible mitigation measures for Sudbury Road.

**Weston Center** – The committee began a detailed study of traffic patterns and crash records in the area between Highland and Wellesley Streets, including Route 20 and the Bypass through the town's center. Our goal is to provide the Selectmen with a set of options that could reduce the crash rates, especially at Highland and Wellesley Streets and to reduce, if possible, the traffic through the town's center.

We expect 2004 to be another busy year for the committee.

## REPORT OF THE TREE WARDEN

During 2003 approximately 15 days were spent in pruning trees, removing deadwood, upbranching and repairing storm damage. The balance of the budget was spent on dead or hazardous tree removals and the necessary police details.

NSTAR initiated a program of tree removals with the object of reducing future power outages with the removal of potential hazards. These removals are done at no cost to the town. The Tree Warden, a certified arborist, reviewed all of the suggested removals with NSTAR's arborist. Some healthy trees were taken off the removal list following agreement that they did not pose a significant hazard. The Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board held hearings at which resident input was solicited. Approved tree removals were started in the fall of 2003. This process is continuing into 2004.

The Tree Warden worked with the Tree Advisory Group (TAG) on Arbor Day celebrations at the Field School. This resulted in the planting of four trees at the school with enthusiastic assistance from the students.

With assistance from the TAG, the Town Manager's office, and the Cemetery Department, the Town submitted an application to have Weston declared a Tree City USA. Our application was approved at the state level and Weston will be designated a Tree City USA in April of 2004. This is an ongoing commitment to the high level of tree work done in the town.



*Members of the Tree Advisory Group survey trees on Glen Road*

During the summer and fall, the Tree Warden compiled a list of approximately 96 dead and hazardous town trees for removal. The trees on this list on "non-scenic" roads were the subject of a hearing by the Board of Selectmen; removals of those approved are being carried out during the winter of 2003/2004.

The Board of Selectmen held a hearing on those removals on non-Scenic roads at Town expense. The approved removals are being carried out. After the Planning Board holds a hearing for the trees on scenic roads, the approved removals will be done. Tree pruning for safety and the health of our trees is an ongoing activity.

## REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works is responsible for maintaining and operating the Town's capital assets (excluding buildings), including the roads and footpaths, stormwater collection system, parks and cemeteries, water distribution system, transfer station and the grounds of all municipal buildings excluding the schools.

During 2003 the DPW has planned, designed and permitted many capital projects. Of particular note is the resurfacing of South Ave. (Rt. 30) that was completed in 2003. Other projects currently underway are the reconstruction of Highland Street and the Landfill Gas Mitigation Project

2004 is shaping up to be a very busy year for public infrastructure construction with two major water projects planned (Newton Street and North Ave.) and the completion of Highland Street.

This work has been accomplished through the splendid efforts of our management team and the extraordinary assistance of our support staff.

The day-to-day work of the department is carried out by teams of highly effective individuals focusing their efforts on specific areas of maintenance and operations.

### Highway Division

The Highway Division is responsible for the maintenance and care of the roads and sidewalks in Town as well as all street signage, guardrails and pavement markings. The seven individuals that make up this division accomplished the following special projects this past year:

- Preparation of the road surface and supervision of the installation of a stone seal surface treatment on:

Baystate Road  
Bradford Rd  
Hancock Road

Indian Hill Road  
Kings Grant Road  
Love Lane

Plymouth Road  
Spruce Hill Road  
Summer Street

- Preparation of the road surface and supervision of a Nova-Chip overlay of a portion of South Avenue (from Newton Street west to just past Pine Street)
- Preparation of the road surface and supervision of the bituminous concrete overlay of Fiske Lane, Conant Road (Church to Woodward); and the milling, reshaping and overlay of Church Street (North Ave. to RR tracks), Loring Road and Woodchester Drive (Shady Hill to 400 feet west of Ledgewood).
- Supervised the installation of crack filling material for preventative maintenance on the following roads:

Chestnut Street  
Glen Road from Cliff Road to Wellesley  
Town Line  
Rockport Road

Wellesley Street from Town line to Case's Corner  
Westgate Road  
Wits End

In addition, vegetation was cut back on the sides of many roads, as well as the removal of tree limbs hanging over roads and sidewalks to promote safe vehicular and pedestrian travel in Town.

The Highway Division responds to snow and ice emergencies as well as downed trees and roadway hazards (potholes).

### **Stormwater Division**

The Stormwater Division is responsible for the maintenance of the Town's storm drains and waterways. This group is made up of five individuals whose focus is promoting Stormwater Management as prescribed by EPA. Areas of focus include street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, repairs to catch basins and drains and the clearing of brush and debris from waterways.

Operation highlights of the past year include:

- Rebuilding of 23 catch basins in various locations around town.
- The jetting of 33 drainage systems.
- Removal of 323 cubic yards of debris from 1316 catch basins which were then treated with *Bacillus Sphaericus* to help prevent the spread of the West Nile Virus.
- Clearing of streams, brooks and waterways of brush debris from Highland Street, West, to the Wayland Town Line.
- Sweeping 87 miles of roadway twice, removing 2431 cubic yards of debris.
- Mapping drainage outfalls in the center and north sections of town using the GPS system.

The Stormwater Division also responds to snow and ice emergencies as well as to all reports of flooding in the Town.

### **Parks and Cemetery Division**



*The DPW assists with Arbor Day Tree Planting at Cases Corner*

The Parks and Cemetery Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Town's cemeteries and parks. In addition, the four members of this division maintain the grounds of all Town buildings (excluding schools). This past year special attention was given to the maintenance of the trees in the parks and cemeteries. Extensive pruning and trimming took place that will improve the overall health of the trees.

The annual program of pruning trees in the cemeteries and scenic parks of the Town continues. Caring for the older trees by removing deadwood and precarious limbs promotes overall health and safety while ensuring that these areas remain the picturesque settings to which we have become accustomed.

The Board of Selectmen formed the Traffic Island Committee, consisting of members from each of Weston's three garden clubs along with a representative of the Department of Public Works. This group will identify traffic islands within the town to be revitalized with new plant materials in-

cluding perennial flowers and ornamental grasses. The committee will identify businesses and organizations interested in sponsoring the replanting and maintenance of these islands.

A local arborist company donated two days of specialized pruning of trees around the Town Green. This served as a learning experience for their employees in the art of caring for mature ornamental trees, as well as improving the appearance and health of the landscape. We are grateful for their time and assistance.

Many of the old fieldstone walls surrounding the historic parks and cemeteries along the Post Road and Fiske Lane were repaired this year. The department recommended the posting of Fiske Lane as one-way to help stem the tide of the deterioration of these beautiful, historic features.

The staff also assisted the Garden Club with Greens Day, in which trimmings are taken from Yews and Hemlocks on Town property and turned into the lovely holiday wreaths seen on Town Hall and other municipal buildings at holiday time.

Tours of Weston's cemeteries and parks are offered by request by calling the Department of Public Works Cemetery office at 781-893-1263 ext. 16.

<u>Cemetery Statistics for Fiscal Year 2003</u>			
Interments:	\$25,225	Foundations:	3,240
Cremations	26	Markers	21
Casket Burials	31	Monuments	9
Sale of Cemetery Lots: *	\$ 12,640	Total Cemetery Revenue:	\$ 41,105

#### **Solid Waste and Recycling Division**

The Solid Waste and Recycling Division comprised of three individuals operate the Transfer Station and Brush Dump. The Transfer Station is open four days a week and the Brush Dump is open on Thursdays.

For 2003, our monthly recycling rates ranged from 31% to 49% with an average of 41%. In fiscal year 2003, the average cost to process recycled product was \$21.48 per ton, a decrease of \$0.49 per ton from fiscal year 2002. The average cost to process solid waste was \$116.06 per ton, an increase of \$0.60 per ton from fiscal year 2002. One thousand seven hundred thirty (1730) tons of material was removed from the waste stream by recycling. During fiscal year 2003 recycling generated \$6,988 in revenue and saved a total of \$163,606 in avoided disposal costs. Recycling is tremendous cost avoidance for the Town with the added potential of some revenue.

The annual household hazardous waste collection day was not held. I will now be held in the spring instead of the fall.

Annual Permits are required for the disposal of Solid Waste at the Transfer station. All residents are welcome to recycle at no charge. Yard waste is also collected at the Transfer Station as an added convenience to residents the Transfer Station is located off of Church Street. We offer recycling for the following items: glass containers, newspaper, mixed paper, cardboard, all metals, tin cans, deposit containers, plastic, brush, logs, leaves, grass and other yard trimmings. We also provide a collection area for televisions and computer monitors. Donated clothing and household goods for Pine Street Inn and Goodwill Industries are accepted at the Transfer Station as well.

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\* Consisting of \$7,500 added to the Sale of Lots Fund, \$5,100 added to the Perpetual Care Trust Fund and \$40 paid to the Town Clerk.

Remember that removing recyclables from the waste stream will result in reduction of costs to the Town. We also benefit by promoting a cleaner and healthier environment.

Thank you to all individuals and families that continue to recycle. Our recycling program is a success because of your enthusiastic effort!

Tours of our facilities are encouraged and can be arranged by contacting the Department of Public Works at 781-893-1263.

**Solid Waste and Recycling Statistics:**

<b>Solid Waste and Recycling Revenue</b>		<b>Total Collections at the Transfer Station</b>	
Resident Permit Sales	\$ 305,912	Solid Waste	2,481 Tons
Other	1,177	Recycling	<u>1,730 Tons</u>
Recycling Proceeds	<u>6,988</u>	Total	<b>4,211 Tons</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 314,077</b>		

**Town Engineer**

The Town Engineer has been involved in the planning, design and construction of numerous projects during 2003. Some of the projects are listed below.

*Construction:*

- Highland Street Drainage Improvements and Roadway Reconstruction
- Salt Shed Construction and Site Development

*Design:*

- Case's Campus Vehicular/Pedestrian Improvements
- Newton Street Water Main Improvements

*Planning & Study:*

- Ledgewood/Shady Hill/ Pond Brook Drainage Improvements
- North Ave Water Main Replacement
- DPW Noise Assessment
- GIS Needs Assessment

*Stormwater Management:*

- Filed Notice of Intent with EPA and received general permit coverage under Phase II stormwater program.
- Began best management practices for year one minimum control measures. Updated Stormwater Regulations at May 2003 Town Meeting.

*DPW Environmental Audit follow-up*

- Underground fuel oil storage tanks removed and replaced with aboveground tanks.
- Floor drains sealed and leaching pits removed and decontaminated.

In 2004 we plan to begin the implementation of the Town-wide Geographic Information System (GIS), and continue supporting ongoing DPW capital projects.

### **Water Division**

The Water Division is responsible for supplying water to 3,567 customers in the Town of Weston. The three individuals that make up this division maintain 116 miles of water main, 934 hydrants, a pump facility and four water storage tanks that store 2,721,000 gallons of water purchased from the MWRA.

Major activities for the year included:

- Emergency repair of six water main breaks;
- The replacement of 19 old and deficient hydrants in various locations;
- A comprehensive leak detection survey of the entire underground piping system resulting in the discovery of two small leaks, which were repaired;
- Assistance to homeowner in locating and repairing ten service leaks.

The Water Division responds to all water system emergencies including system leaks, loss of service, poor water quality and low water pressure. The rank and file members also serve the community during snow and ice emergencies

### **Water Division: Statistical Report**

	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>
Miles, water mains, Beginning	106.61	105.01
Miles, added & eliminated (net)	(1.60)	0.16
Miles of mains, Ending	105.01	105.17
House services, Beginning	3,543	3,356
House services, Added	14	11
House services, Ending	3,557	3,567
Public hydrants, Beginning	925	932
Public hydrants, Added	10	2
Public hydrants, Abandoned	3	0
Public hydrants, Ending	932	934
Water purchased, MWRA (gals)	617,424,600	549,923,600
Water purchased, (other)	3,116,984	2,358,444
Total gallons purchased	620,541,584	552,282,044
Daily average	1,700,114	1,513,101
Weekly average	11,933,492	10,620,808
Monthly average	51,711,798	46,023,504
Greatest pumped in one day	August 14, 2002 4,997,500	July 8, 2003 4,139,200
Greatest pumped in one week	August 15-21 31,456,300	July 1 - 7 22,891,600
Greatest pumped in one month	August 116,722,100	July 93,219,500

### **Conclusion**

The entire DPW organization wishes to thank the residents of Weston for their continued support over this past year. We pledge to carry on our efforts to provide quality, cost-effective service to the community in the upcoming year.

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING**

The Weston Council on Aging was established by the Town Meeting on April 29, 1974 "for the purpose of coordinating and carrying out programs designed to meet the challenges of aging in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Department of Elder Affairs."

**New Activities and Services:** Stroke, Vascular Disease and Osteoporosis Screenings, New Adventures, Nutrition Survey, Great Decisions Discussion Series, Intermediate Bridge classes, and Fall Prevention and Balance class. Betsey Rampsey, RD expands our outreach program by providing free individual nutritional consultations in conjunction with our Keep Well Clinic

**Continuing programs and activities** include:

- ❖ Social events and trips - museums, concerts, house and garden tours;
- ❖ Health and nutrition - Meals on Wheels delivery, food pantry, Keep Well Clinic, medical equipment loan closet and podiatry clinic;
- ❖ Exercise- Yoga, Tai Chi, Line Dancing, Strength Training, and walks with Weston walkers;
- ❖ Classes and presentations- bridge, short stories, watercolor painting, health related talks including hearing loss, Medicare options, and vision loss;
- ❖ Financial advice and assistance - SHINE Program, Boston College Legal Assistance, Senior Service Program;
- ❖ Transportation - FISH (Friends in Service Helping) for medical appointments, Veteran's Taxi for subsidized taxi service to adjoining communities, free weekly shopping trips for groceries in the COA Friendship bus, and low cost transportation to Huntington Theater and Boston Symphony.

**Intergenerational programs:** "Baking for Bristol Lodge" with Weston High School students and several programs during the year with Weston Community Children's Association delivering pumpkins for Halloween and "Paperwhite Delights" in February.

**Collaborative Relationships:**

- ❖ Women's Community League provides holiday goodies for the COA to deliver to homebound seniors;
- ❖ Rotary Club provides hardy helpers for an in-home FIX-IT program for seniors;
- ❖ Land's Sake provides free fresh produce to seniors during the summer months;
- ❖ Town departments provide jobs for the COA Senior Service Program;
- ❖ Friends of the Council on Aging provide financial assistance to eligible seniors who are having financial difficulties meeting the cost of assistance at home, eye glasses or hearing aids;
- ❖ The Weston health department provides a yearly flu clinic to seniors;
- ❖ Recreation Department maintains and manages our combined home at the Community Center;
- ❖ Weston Schools, Spiritual Organizations, and local donors support and fill our food pantry several times each year.

**The COA staff -- Personnel Changes:** Carol Sullivan, Administrative Assistant retired in February: Linda Thompson was hired for the new position of Program Coordinator. After four-

teen years of service, Director Marilyn Campbell also retired: Patricia Parslow was hired as the new Director in August 2003.

The staff which also includes Social Worker, Candace Steingisser, LICSW, and Community and Health Nurse, Jean Masland, RN, works with more than 200 volunteers. They advocate for and help meet the needs that are special to seniors in our town – for resources, sense of community and coping during vulnerable times.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>Council on Aging</u>	EXPENDITURES			APPROP
	FY01	FY02	FY03	
Salaries	<u>97,469</u>	<u>103,756</u>	<u>125,441</u>	<u>120,728</u>
<b>Sub-total Personal Services</b>	<b><u>97,469</u></b>	<b><u>103,756</u></b>	<b><u>125,441</u></b>	<b><u>120,728</u></b>
Repair & Maintain Office Equipment	65	215	-	200
Printing & Advertising	-	695	379	600
Telephone	1,792	1,493	1,416	350
Postage	477	348	914	800
Office Supplies	1,119	1,556	1,257	1,600
In-State Travel	448	726	553	750
Dues/publications	666	738	705	750
Springwell	250	-	-	300
Transportation	11,721	10,645	11,234	2,715
Other Programs	<u>1,432</u>	<u>1,825</u>	<u>2,936</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<b>Sub-total Expenses</b>	<b><u>17,970</u></b>	<b><u>18,242</u></b>	<b><u>19,395</u></b>	<b><u>10,565</u></b>
Senior Work Program	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>118,439</u></b>	<b><u>121,998</u></b>	<b><u>144,836</u></b>	<b><u>131,293</u></b>

## REPORT OF THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members of the Weston Alcohol and Drug Education Advisory Committee (WADEAC) have historically represented the numerous organizations and professionals in the community. Even though changes within the committee this year have resulted in a smaller board, the assessment of the community's alcohol and drug educational needs and the generation of ideas and interests for programming and resource material continues. This has occurred not only through the schools but also with other community organizations involved in the Wellness Initiative.

Financial support for educational materials to enhance new or existing programs in schools and community was offered.

This year WADEAC funded a number of new projects along with those it has supported in the past.

- ◆ A two day facilitation training program - "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child" curriculum, consisting of five 2-hour sessions that cover topics including decision-making skills, making ground rules, self-esteem, stress reduction, sexuality, eating disorders and substance abuse.

Funds were provided for necessary start-up materials and two Weston resident volunteers have run these parenting workshops. To date a total of 35 parents have participated which are now offered through the Weston Recreation Department.

- ◆ WADEAC sponsored Detective James McLaughlin, from the Keene, NH police department, a nationally known expert on the subject of preventing Internet crimes keeping children safe from "cyber predators". Detective McLaughlin believes that the "key element in keeping children safe on the Internet lies in teaching parents what to look for and how to be aware of high risk situations." This program, which was held at the Middle School's Amy Potter Center, was open to the community and attended by approximately 50 people.
- ◆ For the ninth consecutive year WADEAC funded the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Health & Communication Forum, formerly known as Project Safeguard, a family-based prevention education program for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents and teachers. Organized by parent volunteers and the Director of Health & Physical Education for the Weston Public Schools, this program is designed to develop health related-refusal and decision-making skills. The forum took place in June at the Weston High School.
- ◆ This year, activities at the Whitman Tennis club were offered as an alternative venue to high school kids for the after-Prom party. WADEAC funded one of the food concessions.
- ◆ The Committee participated in a meeting with Town Manager Carl Valente regarding the Town's Wellness initiative and the future role of WADEAC.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks to outgoing co-chairs Janet Bain and Joan MacClary for their years of hard work and the number of initiatives funded by WADEAC.

## REPORT OF THE ELDERLY HOUSING COMMITTEE

Money spent and progress made  
Implementing plans our town has laid.  
Efforts great, budget met  
Twenty four more units we will get.

Expansion's messy, lots of noise  
But our elderly handle it with poise.  
Soon 'twill be hushed and neat...  
Landscaped with dear bittersweet.

Soccer field preserved throughout  
For games to play, we'll win no doubt!  
As tenants watch and cheer and shout  
Win? Why heck, 'twill be a rout!

Thanks go out to William Cress  
He's guiding us like precision chess.  
Our committee chair he's been for years  
He's left that role, we're left with tears.

But he'll now focus on nitty gritty  
As head of our building sub-committee.  
Throughout he did us well equip  
With expertise and leadership.

And though we'll Bill so sorely miss,  
Our committee's depth has us in bliss.  
For his replacement is a man divine  
Please welcome our new chair, Jack Heine.

Experienced, he's paid his dues.  
He's ready now to fill Bill's shoes.  
Our committee will sure nothing dread  
'Cause Jack will move us far ahead.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

### Introduction

The Board of Health (BOH) is responsible for the promotion and protection of public health. This is done through education and service as well as enforcement of public, mental, and environmental health laws and regulations. The BOH provides enforcement of the State Sanitary Code including housing, food sales and service, pools, camps, and the surveillance and reporting of communicable disease. Enforcement of the State Environmental Code covers wells, septic systems, air and water quality, lead, mercury, asbestos abatement and ground water protection.

As Public Health education is the first line of defense in maintaining a healthy community, many educational outreach efforts were made this year to increase the community's awareness of West Nile Virus, Lyme disease, sun exposure risks, poisonous plants and recreational safety. A training program was offered to all youth counselors at the recreation camps that highlighted these health risks and ways the counselors could protect the campers and themselves. Additionally a booth was set up at the annual Spring Fling sponsored by the Recreation Department. Videos, games and prizes were available to encourage youth and adults to stop and get the facts on how to protect themselves while enjoying the outdoors. We also met with the Weston residents at the Counsel on Aging and the Weston League of Woman Voters to provide them with an understanding of our efforts to promote Public Health in Weston.

Alice Koehn Benson has chaired the Wellness Committee. Boards of Health Members Marie Tobin, R.N. and Nicholas Guerina, M.D. and Public Health Director Wendy Diotalevi, R.S. have participated on this committee. The BOH has taken note of the serious implications of the 2000 Youth at Risk Survey (please see the web site for detailed information) and has been working with several town committees and other community resources to consider the implications of this study. There is a great need to formulate some strategies and focus our resources to address the concerns of our youth proactively.

### Public Health

The BOH provides vaccines to physicians through the state funded vaccine program by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to insure vaccine availability for the members of our community. This year the BOH provided over 22,000 doses of vaccine valued at more than \$417,600.

A flu clinic was held in the fall and 400 doses of flu vaccine were administered to senior citizens and at risk populations of Weston. The BOH sincerely thanks the medical professionals and Weston citizens who graciously donated their time and talents to this very successful effort.

Nick Guerina, M.D.	Patricia Hoban, R.N.	Beverly Shepard
Will Cochran, M.D.	Kathy Langenberg, R.N.	Mary Thielscher
Elizabeth Binney, M.D.	Jean Masland, R.N.	Candy Steingisser
Joyce Barken, R.N.	Gail Nozik, R.N.	Elaine Ellis, R.N.
Kathy Becker, R.N.	Linda Perrin, R.N.	Theresa Levinson, R.N.
Patricia Wright, R.N.	Patricia Parslow, COA	

In 2003 Weston participated in the Massachusetts Department of Public Health West Nile Virus surveillance program (MADHA). A total of 36 bird deaths were reported, 4 birds were found in a condition that allowed for testing by the MADPH and all tested positive for West Nile Virus. During this time a health alert was sent out through the web site, recreation department and the local newspaper to remind our citizens to wear protective clothing, insect repellent and minimize their outdoor activities between dawn and dusk. There were no human infections identified in Weston.

The BOH has made a budget request for a part-time public health nurse to conduct communicable disease surveillance and reporting. The Public Health Nurse would also conduct and coordinate public health outreach efforts and in conjunction with all other departments, staff and Boards, and develop programs to address issues of emergency preparedness and response.

The Weston BOH website continues to provide information on a variety of health issues including the Youth at Risk Survey, West Nile Virus, influenza, health information alerts and updates and septic and renovation questions. For additional information please visit the website at [www.westonboh.org](http://www.westonboh.org). The BOH thanks board member Dr. Nick Guerina for his continued development of and attention to this community health resource as webmaster.

The BOH is responsible for ensuring that the health and welfare of farm animals owned by the citizens of Weston meets the standards of care required by law. Paula Nicholas, Animal Inspector, has provided the following as an inventory of the farm animals.

47 Horses	28 Pigs
15 Sheep	45 Beef
11 Ponies	2 Llamas
15 Chickens	

#### **Mental Health**

The BOH provides mental health services to Weston's citizens through contracts with Human Relations Service in Wellesley, the Multi-Service Center in Newton and the Charles River Workshop in Needham.

#### **Environmental Health**

All residential properties in Weston are served by individual septic systems. Title 5 of the State Environmental Code is a set of regulations established by the Department of Environmental Protection that sets standards for the design and construction of septic systems. The BOH is responsible for the enforcement of this Code and invests approximately 80% of its staff time in the area of environmental health enforcing Title 5 of the State Environmental Code.

Enforcement of Title 5 consists of the witnessing of percolation and deep test holes, review of septic system plans, and inspection of the installation of new septic systems and wells. Title 5 Inspections of existing septic systems and renovation projects require research of existing files to establish abutting lot and site conditions. Renovation projects are all reviewed to ensure that the proposed work is in compliance with Title 5 of the State Environmental Code.

There are several large complexes that require sewerage treatment plants. These complexes have groundwater discharge permits issued through the Department of Environmental Protection. Reports are forwarded to the BOH and are reviewed to establish that the treatment plants are operating within the parameters of the permit.

In 2003 the systems at Jericho Village and Winter Gardens were repaired. New systems were approved and installed at Liberty Mutual and the Rivers School and a new system was designed and approved for Brook School Apartments.

**Detail of Regular Services Provided by the BOH**

Activity	2003	2002	2001
Septic System Permits	156	151	175
Septic System Plan Reviews	281	270	*
Septic System Inspections/ meetings	480	498	350
Title V Inspection Reports/ Reviews	334	145	*
Soil/ Percolation Tests Witnessed	146	135	80
Septic System Installer's Licenses	47	76	*
Septic System Installer's Exams	5	5	*
Septic System Pumper/Hauler Permits	14	4	*
Renovation/ Addition Permits	223	158	180
Renovation/ Addition Permit Review/ Meetings	276	*	*
Environmental Investigations	96	12	*
Well Permits/Review/ Inspection	16	17	*
Communicable Disease Investigations	23	48	*
Emergency Preparedness Meetings	28	*	*
Community Health and Wellness Meetings/Training	58	5	*
Food Service Permits	42	51	65
Food Service Inspections	53	51	*
Camp Permits	8	6	7
Camp Inspections	18	6	7
Commercial/Residential Pool, Hot Tub, Beach Permits	14	13	16
Commercial/Residential Pool, Hot Tub, Beach Inspections	24	13	16
Body Work Permits	7	3	*
Housing Complaint Investigations/Court	24	9	*
Administration Meetings	28	14	*
Training Meetings	18	6	*
Burial Permits	112	*	*
Port-a-John Permits	25	*	*
Phone Calls	6,154 +	*	*
Research	897 +	430	*
Total Revenue for Calendar Year	\$142,455	\$141,353	\$64,452

\* Totals unavailable

## REPORT OF THE EAST MIDDLESEX MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

The East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project conducts a program in Weston consisting of mosquito and West Nile Virus (WNV) surveillance, larval and adult mosquito control, ditch mainenance and public education.

The risk of mosquito borne transmission of WNV continues to be a local health concern. In 2003 there were 16 residents from Massachusetts that contracted WNV. The Project participated in the State's **Surveillance and Response Plan to Reduce the Risk of WNV Transmission and Human Encephalitis**. Frequent rains produced moderate mosquito activity during the summer with peak populations occurring in late August.

The adult mosquito/WNV surveillance program used traps to collect mosquitoes from as many as four Weston locations per night. Between June and September, information was used from 25 mosquito trap collections from eight different nights. Selected trap collections during the late summer and fall were tested for WNV by the Mass. Dept. of Public Health.

The larval mosquito control program relies on the larvicides *Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis* (Bti), *Bacillus sphaericus*, and methoprene, all of which are classified by the EPA as relatively non-toxic. An April helicopter application of Bti controlled mosquito larvae at 262 wetland acres. In addition, field crews using portable sprayers applied Bti in the spring and the summer to 45 wetland acres when high densities of mosquito larvae were found breeding in stagnant water. During the summer, Project personnel applied Altosid Briquets (methoprene) and *Bacillus sphaericus* to control *Culex* mosquito larvae at a total of 1,499 roadside catchbasins. The Project also provided *Bacillus sphaericus* packets to the Weston DPW to control mosquito larvae in catchbasins.

To control adult mosquitoes, a formulation of resmethrin was applied at night via truck mounted aerosol sprayers when survey traps indicated high populations. Advance notification of the spray program was done through a newspaper notice in the Weston Town Crier, notices on the Project's web site and via a recorded telephone message at 781- 893-5759.

The Project maintains waterways to the buildup of stagnant water in wetlands caused by obstructions in waterways. Waterways were excavated near Rt. 20 and Golden Ball Rd, near Linwood Ave. and at Radcliffe Rd.

The Project's public education program is designed to develop awareness within the public and the private sectors as to their roles in mosquito control. It is a resource for residents, schools, municipal officials and the local media on controlling mosquitoes, breeding sites and mosquito borne diseases.

For additional information on mosquitoes, Project control programs and related topics see [www.town.sudbury.ma.us/services/health/epmcp](http://www.town.sudbury.ma.us/services/health/epmcp).

## **REPORT OF THE HOUSING NEEDS COMMITTEE**

A principal activity of the Housing Needs Committee during the past year has been the review and recommendation to the Board of Selectmen of two redevelopment projects:

1. 809-811 Boston Post Road, a joint project with the Historical Commission, to preserve a 19<sup>th</sup> century farm house and to produce a mixed-income eight-unit condominium development with two affordable units. The development is supported with \$385,000 of Community Preservation Act funds from monies reserved for Historical Preservation and for Affordable Housing.
2. 175 Boston Post Road By-Pass, a private redevelopment project in which a single-family home would be converted into a mixed-income eight-unit condominium development with two affordable units. No public money is required.

The committee has continued to support its recommendations in hearings before various Town Boards and Committees, and has continued to work with developers to assist them in modifying their original proposals to mitigate a variety of concerns raised by citizens at those hearings.

The Housing Needs Committee continues its efforts to find sites suitable for affordable housing, and it expects to recommend other developments to the Selectmen during the coming year. Unfortunately, one of the searches in the past year - for a site on which to locate a gift of a single-family, three-bedroom ranch house - ultimately proved unsuccessful

## **REPORT OF THE YOUTH COUNSELOR**

The position of Youth Counselor is under the aegis of the Board of Selectmen. Consultation and training opportunities are available at the Human Relations Service of Wellesley. The Youth Counselor provides counseling to young people, ages 11-21, who attend the Weston Public Schools or who reside in the Town. The Youth Counselor also consults with other personnel serving the Town's youth and their families. The Youth Counseling Office is located at the Weston High School.

David A. Cope, a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, has a Masters Degree from Simmons School of Social Work and a postgraduate certificate from Boston University for advanced clinical work with substance abuse issues. Mr. Cope is also a professional mediator. He has served as the Youth Counselor since September of 1990. In 2003 he had 122 student clients for individual counseling and consulted to a number of parents to help them develop effective approaches to adolescent issues. Some of the issues Mr. Cope worked with are depression and suicidal ideation, attention and organizational difficulties, substance abuse, eating issues, divorce and loss, family and peer conflicts.

Mr. Cope worked closely with school personnel to develop student intervention plans. He is the coordinator of the High School's Peer Mediation program, which trains students to mediate other student's unresolved interpersonal conflicts. He also visited freshman health classes to discuss conflict resolution and stress management.

## CULTURE AND LEISURE

### REPORT OF THE WESTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Weston Cultural Council is charged with distributing money allotted to the Town by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), a state agency supporting the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. The MCC received \$7.3 million from the state legislature for the Local Cultural Council Program. Weston's allocation for calendar year 2003 was \$2,000; a distribution based on town population and property values. In addition some grant money from the previous year allowed us to grant an additional \$300 for a total of \$2,300.

Submissions for grant applications were due on October 15, 2003. Grants are made to individuals or groups to support worthy projects that enhance the cultural side of our lives and enhance our appreciation of our cultural environment. Grants are also available to educational institutions (the PASS grant program) for such activities as field trips to concerts, museums, etc.

A public meeting of the Weston Cultural Council was held on November 17, 2003 at which time the submissions were discussed and the grants awarded. The Council received 11 applications requesting a total of \$5,150. Of these, five had local sponsorship. An application is considered "locally sponsored" if a Weston organization (School, Library, Council on Aging, etc.) has agreed to host the program. The council decided to fund five of the programs for a total of \$2,300. All of the grants are subject to approval by the MCC and funds are made available in the spring. Grant recipients are required to publicize their events, which are generally open to the public, and interested residents are urged to take advantage of these cultural opportunities.

The following is a brief listing of the grants approved at the local level this fall which are awaiting state approval:

- Funding for the Spellman Museum for educational programs and exhibit equipment;
- Funding for the Rivers Music School's Seminar on Contemporary Music for the Young;
- Funding for the Metropolitan Wind Symphony for a two concert series to take place in Weston;
- Funding for the musical group Yankee Notions to perform at the Community Center;
- Funding for the Golden Tones Community Multi-Generational Event to take place in April 2004.

The Weston Cultural Council is composed of up to ten residents who have been appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Tenure is limited by statute to two three- year terms. Members are appointed when a vacancy occurs, so interested residents are invited to contact the Selectmen about future openings. For further information please contact chair Deborah Knight

## **REPORT OF THE WESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The mission of the Weston Public Library is to provide materials, resources and programs for lifelong learning and enjoyment. The Library serves the entire community by making available collections on a broad array of subjects of interest to its patrons. It is a forum for the community, providing a welcoming and well-maintained facility for meetings, informal gatherings, lectures and other cultural events.

The past year brought many changes to the Weston Public Library. In June of 2003, Minuteman Library Consortium, and Weston Public Library, changed to a new and improved computer system. The new system, called Millenium, was designed to make computer searching and requests easier for patrons at home, and to allow faster delivery of requested items for all patrons. After six months on the new system, the staff is very adept at using it, and patrons seem happy with the service. In addition, Director Elizabeth Drake retired at the end of 2003. The Library was fortunate to have her guidance for five and a half years, and we wish her well in her new endeavors. We welcome Susan Brennan, who took over as the new Director on January 20, 2004. Previously she had been the Director of the Medway Public Library and was President of the MetroWest Massachusetts Regional Library System in 2002 - 2003.

Like the rest of the town departments, the library was hit hard by budget cuts in 2003. The reduction of \$35,000 in our salary line item and \$10,000 in our general expenses required closing the library on Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings. The cutbacks also meant we offered fewer children's programs, fewer new materials, and fewer special programs for the public. This level of service will remain in place for the next fiscal year. Despite the budget impact, and loss of personnel hours, the Library continued to offer a plethora of new materials and services for Weston patrons. Our goal is to work with the town to restore our level of service for Weston residents as soon as it is financially feasible.

### Adult Services

Weston Public Library was a very busy place in 2003. We circulated over 330,000 items to patrons, an increase of 40,000 over the prior year. Books and magazines for adults and children represent 58% of checked out items, while nonprint items (films, videos, DVDs, music CDs etc.) comprise a hefty 42% of overall circulation. Library patrons made an average of 29.3 visits last year or 2.4 visits monthly.

Volunteers are important members of the circulation department, and we are very thankful to have their able assistance. Volunteers Karen Sedat conducted her 11<sup>th</sup> year of pop up book programs for children, while Mary Parker and Ed McKearney helped maintain order in the book stacks. Gene Travers worked to maintain order in the film, spoken word, and music CD shelves. The Friends of Weston Library Book Discussion group meets monthly. All meetings are open to new attendees and there is a wide-ranging list of books selected by participants each June. The Military History Group offers very popular monthly lectures on war and military themes. Attendance in 2003 was so high at these lectures that a repeat lecture was required in the same month. Videos of the lectures are available for checkout.

### Reference

The number of reference questions declined slightly in 2003, to an average of 391 per week. Use of the public computers continued to increase with 13,800 library patrons signing up for computer use, compared to just fewer than 12,000 in FY02. In October, an additional workstation was added offering Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint, but without access to the Internet. We hope it will cut down on waiting time for patrons who need a computer but not the Internet.

### Youth Services

The Summer Reading Program had another successful year with 298 participants – just a few less than in 2002. Children read and recorded 8,626 books and 2,033 hours. Three children read more than 200 books as part of the program! The Vacation Crafts, supported by the Friends of Weston Library, was extremely successful as well, with over 2,000 unique pieces of artwork created over a ten-week period.

Youth Services staff answered 9,065 reference questions, and there were 6,914 records of computer use and interactions between staff and children. The department offered 184 programs over the course of the year, and 2,498 children attended them. We look forward to a busy and rewarding 2004 providing top quality children's services to Weston patrons.



*Entrance to Youth Services area*

### Technical Services

The Technical Services Department added 7,480 new items to our collection in 2003. The complexities of the new Millennium software program added to this challenge, but new items appear on our shelves regularly, and promptly. Millennium also allows patrons to place a request as soon as the catalog shows that the item is on order, so the time in processing has been condensed to meet patron's needs.

### Arts, Exhibits and Music Committees

The library continues to grow as a cultural center in Weston, as the art on loan program flourishes and musical programming expands. This year, in addition to monthly exhibits in the gallery, two outdoor sculptures were installed for a two-year exhibition—Judith Steinberg's bright blue aluminum "On Point" and Bill Harby's "Granite Reflections." In addition, we learned more about our friends and neighbors at a special exhibition of crafts created by Weston residents and organized by the Art and Exhibitions Committee.

Thirteen concerts, representing a wide variety of music, were preformed. They included classical ensembles and solo performances, multi cultural concerts and holiday events. These, as well as, MusicFest, a day of music performed by Weston residents of all ages, were sponsored by the Music Committee.

In June, the Library and Friends once again sponsored the Ice Cream Social to celebrate summer, community, and the Summer Reading Program.

### **Friends of Weston Library**

The Friends of the Weston Library was formally established in September 1965 by seventeen interested townspeople. The organization has since grown to a membership of 580, with an active Board of 21 members, which include the Library Director and a representative of the Trustees as ex-officio members.

The Friends mission is to "encourage the development of a strong and active public library for the town and to help provide, where necessary, resources not otherwise funded." The funding comes from membership dues, the annual book sale, the book cart, and yearly international trip. These monies provide major support for the Children's Summer Program, partial sponsorship of the Military History Group and the Ice Cream Social. The organization delivers books and audio-visual materials to the homebound. It purchases unbudgeted materials for the library such as DVDs, information stands, audio-visual equipment and special memorial gifts. It is currently providing funding for the restoration and cataloging of Weston's historical archives. Other activities include a yearly staff appreciation lunch, monthly programs by local authors and celebrities, as well as sponsorship of local trips of interest, including a Tanglewood concert. The organization's members are constantly working to make the Weston Public Library a very special place for the citizens of the community.

### **REPORT OF THE WESTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

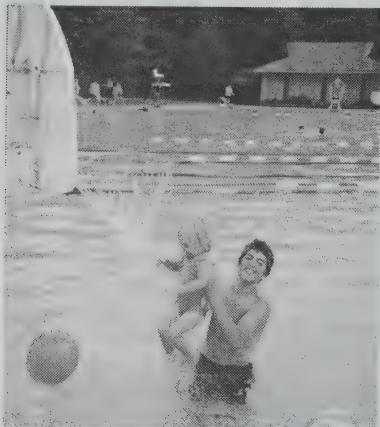
As usual, 2003 was an extremely busy one for the Recreation Department. The new Community Center continued to host special events for town residents - from birthday parties to bar- and bat-mitzvahs, from high school reunions to the annual Holiday Luncheon for the town's senior citizens. The Center remains in constant use and is an invaluable asset to the town.

The recreation staff consists of seven full-time employees ably assisted by a revolving staff of part-time help. From program planning to field maintenance to guarding lives at the town's pools, the individuals whom the department employs are as qualified as they are friendly.

The recreation budget for the past three fiscal years is broken out below.

	<b>Actual FY 02</b>	<b>Actual FY 03</b>	<b>Appropriated FY 04</b>
General Fund Fee Revenue	306,268	423,589	
Revolving Fund Fee Revenue	360,476	360,248	
Enterprise Account Revenue			745,500
Total Fee Revenue	666,744	783,837	745,500
Salaries	493,536	544,651	377,690
Operating Expenses of Community Center	40,116	56,987	64,200
Expenses	178,617	191,444	653,436
Revolving Fund Salaries	97,071	110,000	0
Revolving Fund Expenses	216,609	209,000	0
Total Expenses	1,025,949	1,112,082	1,095,326
% from Fees	65%	70%	68%

Once again, the Recreation Department spent the year offering an exceptional variety of programs for people of all ages in the town, many of which were offered in our new Center. In 2003, participants enrolled in the 407 programs we offered during the course of the year. Among our most popular offerings were Elementary After-school Programs, Adult Yoga and fitness programs and the Annual Egg Hunt on the Town Green. Our summer camps were well attended, but the ongoing construction at the schools compromised attendance figures slightly, with some 1440 campers taking advantage of our offerings during the seven weeks that our camp programs were in operation.



As it is every summer, the town pool was again a gathering spot for residents who took advantage of the exceptional facility and programs we provide there. While overall attendance was down from previous years, attributable primarily to inconsistent weather and annoying temperature fluctuations, 21,114 patrons still visited us during the summer and made our family nights and theme nights events to remember. In spite of the challenge of coping with the routing and parking complications caused by the construction projects being completed nearby, it still remains a wonderful place for families to go and swim in a safe and clean environment.

As in previous summers, Wednesday night concerts on the Town Green were a big hit, with families bringing picnic dinners and socializing to the sounds of a variety of musical groups during July and August.

During the winter months, open gym, access to the indoor swimming pool, the ever-burgeoning Red Wave Swimming Program for the town's youth as well as adult basketball and volleyball programs continue to complement the arts and crafts offerings that the department provides.

Once again, the diversity of programs the town is able to offer and smoothly run can be directly attributed to Doug MacDougall and his dedicated staff. They continue to deliver top-quality programs at affordable prices - we are indeed fortunate to have such devoted, tireless workers comprising the recreation staff. Please remember to thank them for their efforts the next time that you see them.



*Cheryl Maloney,  
New Assistant Superintendent  
for Curriculum and Instruction*



*Judith Belliveau,  
New Assistant Superintendent  
for Business and Operations*

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



*Richard Houde,  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction 1989 - 2003*



*John Stayn,  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Business and Operations 1970 - 2003*

## **REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

### **Oversight and Administration**

The Weston School Committee sets the budget, establishes educational policy, and hires the superintendent for the Weston Public Schools. The committee is composed of five residents who are elected by the town to staggered three-year terms. The School Committee usually meets at least twice a month, with dates and times posted at the Town Hall, the Weston Public Library and Weston High School. All meetings are open to the public. Dr. Alan Oliff, Superintendent of the Weston Public Schools since 1998, is responsible for supervising and managing the daily operations of the schools.

During 2003, the School Committee and School Administration were focused on the selection and transition of two new Assistant Superintendents. Cheryl Maloney succeeded Dr. Richard Houde as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and Judy Belliveau succeeded Dr. John Stayn as Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations. Dr. Houde and Dr. Stayn were dedicated, highly respected members of the school community each of whom served the Weston Public Schools for more than 30 years.

### **Schools and Enrollment**

Weston has five schools serving students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Country and Woodland Schools serve students from kindergarten through third grade; Field School serves students in fourth and fifth grades; Weston Middle School serves students in the sixth through eighth grades; and Weston High School serves students in the ninth through twelfth grades. Since 1999, Weston has also operated an integrated pre-school, called Weston Windows, to fulfill its mandate to educate children with special needs from the age of three. Weston Windows is currently located in the Country School.

Enrollment for the 2003-2004 school year, as of October 1, 2003, was 2,330 students. This represents an overall increase of 31 students, or a 1.3% change from the previous school year:

- +18 students, or +1.7%, in grades K - 5;
- 15 students, or -2.6%, at the Middle School; and
- +28 students, or +4.4%, at the High School.

Overall, enrollment is projected to level off over the next several years but the cohorts with peak enrollment levels will continue to have an impact on staffing and the budget as they move through the school system.

### **Academic Achievement and College Placement**

The School Committee believes that many factors need to be considered in evaluating students' academic achievement and describing how well the schools educate their students and use the town's resources. Some of these factors are class size; teaching quality; the variety and types of academic, artistic, civic, and social experiences offered to students; performance on standardized tests; and college placements. Committee members consider and are guided by all of these considerations in making budget and policy decisions affecting the schools.

With respect to standardized tests, Weston students continued to perform well at all grade levels in 2003. This was the sixth year that the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests were given statewide. The MCAS tests are designed to evaluate students' knowledge of specific subjects at the third, fourth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and tenth grade levels based on curriculum frameworks established by the Massachusetts Department of Education. Weston's average scaled score for all tests placed it eleventh in the state and the tenth grade combined average scaled scores for English and Mathematics ranked fifth. Fourth grade scores were fourth in the state and eighth grade scores were eighth in the state. The data generated from the results

of these tests continues to be used to strengthen and expand classroom curriculum and instruction.

Elementary and middle school students also take tests developed by the Educational Records Bureau, familiar to parents and students as the "ERBs." These are standardized tests that evaluate ability, skill, and knowledge in language arts and mathematics and provide scores and rankings for participating urban and suburban public and private schools across the United States. Weston students continue to score very well on these tests. Further information on our district's performance is available from the School Department.

The Class of 2003 comprised 140 students. The average scores for this class on the SAT I (scale of 200 to 800) was 604 on the Verbal test (compared to a national average score of 507) and 616 on the Mathematics test (compared to a national average score of 519). Ninety-nine percent of the class took the examination and 15% of the class qualified as either National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalists or Commended Students.

The SAT II achievement exams test knowledge and skills in specific subjects. The more competitive colleges and universities typically require their applicants to take the Writing and English Composition and Math SAT II tests. Performance by the Class of 2003 on these tests was very good. The average score on the Writing/English Test was 653, compared to the national average of 596, with 72% of the class taking the test. The average score on the Math L1C was 627, compared to a national average of 590, with 56% of the class participating; and on the MathL2C (a more advanced level of the test) was 676 versus 662 nationally, with 25% of the class taking the test.

Participation and test results in Advanced Placement courses is another widely accepted measure of academic performance, and here, too, Weston High School students did well. Our participation rates are high. In 2003, 52% of juniors and 67% of seniors took at least one Advanced Placement course. Those students took a combined total of 420 AP tests. Eighty-five percent of exams earned scores that would qualify for college or university credit.

Fifty-two percent of the Class of 2003 will be attending the top 11% of the 1,491 colleges and universities evaluated in terms of competition to gain admission as listed in Barron's Profile of American Colleges. Furthermore, 54% of the middle fifth of the class will also be attending these schools.

### **Facilities**

The school community is very grateful to the Town for supporting the renovation and expansion of the educational facilities. Construction at the Country and Woodland Schools began in July 2001 and Phase II is nearing completion. Students began school in September under less than ideal circumstances but by mid-November the kindergarten was moved out of the High School, the Pre-School was moved out of Regis College and all grades were occupying the new spaces. By December the cafeteria facilities were on-line and students were learning how to purchase their lunches with the new computerized "pin" system. The projects will be closed out following completion of the punch list work. Maintaining the new, expanded facilities to protect the Town's investment will be a priority for the School Committee and Administration.

The Field School, which houses grades 4 and 5, is the only facility that was not fully renovated and as a result has many capital needs. Therefore, the School Committee will be prioritizing its capital expenditures to make improvements over time as necessary.

### **Curriculum and Other Initiatives**

One of the most significant accomplishments in 2003 was the completion of curriculum standards in every subject area. This was the culmination of three years of work by teachers and

administrators to develop learning standards for all grade levels in K-12. The curriculum standards are one aspect of the district-wide "Standards Based Education" initiative, which focuses teaching on what students should know and be able to do, rather than driven by topics to be covered. This approach shapes the way in which subjects are taught. The standards guide teachers on content and skills, allowing them to become more specific with students about what constitutes good quality work. Progress is assessed using Benchmark Assessment Tasks. The School Department held forums for parents to inform them about the standards and to demonstrate how they will be used in the classroom. All teachers have been engaged in dialogue during the year to continue the implementation of this effort.

### **Special Education**

Weston Public Schools is committed to the inclusion of children with special needs in the classroom and supports the inclusion model with resources to make it a successful experience for all students. This model provides cost effective programs for students in special education that are consistent with the high quality educational programs provided to all students in the district.

The pre-school Special Education population has grown twice as fast as the rest of the Special Education population and the severity of their needs has also grown. In response to this, the Weston Public Schools established an integrated pre-school for both typically developing and special needs children in 1999-2000. Now in its fifth year, the program is well regarded by parents of both regular and special education children and its quality has been noted by the Department of Education. This program is one of the single best initiatives for offering a long-term cost-containment strategy with corresponding program effectiveness. The classrooms were temporarily housed in a building on the Regis College campus while the elementary school renovations were in progress, but now occupy a wing of the Country School with space that conforms to the age and needs of the pre-school students.

### **School Budget**

The School Committee's 2003-2004 budget was \$23.6 million, a 1.86% increase over the previous year. This was the smallest increase to the School Department budget in over twenty years and reflected the economic climate and fiscal constraints of the Town. As part of its budget the School Committee reluctantly instituted an activity fee for the first time, requiring students to pay for participation in sports and co-curricular activities. It was the expectation of the School Committee that the fee would be temporary and would be eliminated in the subsequent budget cycle. In spite of the institution of the fee, many compromises were made in programming and instruction as well as in capital spending and maintenance in order to keep the budget within Proposition 2 ½ constraints.

### **METCO**

For over thirty-five years the METCO program has served to diversify our student body and community with minority students from Boston. The program continues to provide an educational opportunity for both Weston and Boston students and to lessen racial isolation for all students. A representative of the Weston/Boston METCO Parent Organization participates in School Committee meetings and provides valuable perspectives to discussions. METCO also contributes to the school community through such activities as Teacher Visiting Day in Boston, potluck dinners, and staff development workshops.

In 2003, the METCO program graduated a wonderful and talented class. Several of our students were awarded college scholarships worthy of their talents in academics, music and athletics. Included in this group was Chantel Hampton, an aspiring vocalist and writer, who was a featured vocalist and performer for the Berklee College of Music summer program and entered Berklee in the fall as a scholarship student.

### **Volunteer Organizations**

The school system benefits from a wide variety of private financial and volunteer support, without which it could not offer the variety or quality of education experiences that it does. The Weston Education Enrichment Fund Committee (WEEFC), in its eighteenth year, raised record funds at its fundraising auction, which it used to pay for projects, programs and equipment that could not be funded within the regular school budget. Unlike past years when WEEFC could support activities that enriched the school programs, WEEFC funded more "essentials," such as professional development, given the very difficult budget climate. Since its inception WEEFC has received contributions of more than \$1 million and funded more than 1,500 projects.

The Weston Boosters Organization continued its unfailing support for Weston's athletic and co-curricular programs. The successes of our athletic teams are due in part to the Boosters' contributions to purchase such items as scoreboards, uniforms and equipment to name just a few.

Finally, the schools benefited greatly from the efforts of the Weston Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The PTO serves as a vital link between parents and the schools, facilitating communication and providing volunteers and resources to enhance school programs. Curriculum was enriched by programs brought in by the Creative Arts and Science Council committees, organized and funded by the PTO. A Parent Education effort was introduced this year in conjunction with the town-wide wellness initiative. The PTO organized programs like Active Parenting, brought in speakers and held forums to address numerous issues of interest to parents. Weston is fortunate to have large numbers of eager volunteers at every grade level who spent time in classrooms, planned and carried out special events, and served on committees and School Councils.

### **Notable Events of 2003**

#### **Retirements**

The following long-term, valued members of the school community retired during 2003. Their contributions have significantly enhanced and supported the education of our students.

John A. Stayn, Assistant Superintendent for Business, formerly High School Assistant Principal and High School Science Teacher, since 1962;

Joan Boghosian, Elementary Teacher and Grade Leader, since 1968;

Joseph Verovsek, High School Social Studies Teacher, since 1969;

Donald C. Taggart, III, High School Science Teacher, since 1970, and WESA President from 1999-2003;

Bill Laswell, Case House Custodian, since 1971;

Denise Price, Kindergarten Teacher, since 1971;

Richard Houde, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, formerly Math Department Head, since 1972;

Janet Wohlers, Middle School World Language Teacher, since 1972.

Joanne Frolich, Elementary Learning Center Teacher, since 1978;

#### **Community Service Projects**

Students in every school participated in community service projects during 2003. At the high school, 266 students who completed at least twenty hours of volunteer work received certificates of recognition for their work.

#### **Recognition and Awards**

Many students and staff were recognized in 2003 for excellence for a wide variety of activities and endeavors. Some of them were:

### ***Administration and Faculty***

- Don Benson, High School History Teacher and Mary O'Brien, High School Computer Specialist, were honored with Meritorious Service Awards at the Eastern Mass Swim Coaches Association Dinner. Don also had his third article published in Scholastic Coach Magazine.
- Peter Foley, Director of Athletics, was selected as winner of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Distinguished Service Award and was also selected for induction into the State of Maine Swimming Hall of Fame.
- Laura Galopim, Middle School Health and Physical Education teacher and Weston High School Field Hockey coach was named Coach of the Year by the MetroWest Daily Newspaper.
- The High School Athletic Program was named to the MIAA Sportsmanship Honor Roll.

### ***Student Awards***

#### **Art**

- The photographic artwork of five Weston High School seniors, Lindsay Brady MacDonald, Eli Horowitz, Meena Bolourchi, Jessica Chin, and Anne Lettieri, was displayed at the Gibbs Gallery in the Arlington Center for the Arts.
- The following high school students were award winners at the Annual Boston Globe Scholastic Awards: Eli Horowitz for Photography; Alex Huckstepp for Sculpture; Lisa Wen for Mixed Media; and Courtney Wetmore for Painting. Middle School student winners were Elizabeth Connolly for Mixed Media; Lea Hachigian, Will Hulings, Rachael Mazzella and Steven Rubash for Computer Graphics; Matthew Hatfield and Nathan Lipkin for Drawing.

#### **Drama & English**

- The entire cast of students won awards in the Massachusetts High School Drama Festival for set design; music composition and performance; acting; and choreography for their production of "Pericles." Alex Lawrence and Elizabeth Charpie won awards for acting in all three rounds of the festival and were named to the All-State Company. The production won the preliminary and semi-final rounds of the Mass High School Drama Guild Festival, taking Weston into State Finals at the John Hancock for the fifth time in seven years.
- Luke Taylor won second place in the state for the Massachusetts High School Drama Guild Acting Scholarship Competition.

#### **Math**

- The High School Math Team won the Massachusetts Small Schools first place trophy and second place at the New England Regional Championships.
- Michael Posa was 14<sup>th</sup> in the State for the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Olympiad High School Prize Competition in Mathematics.

#### **Computer Science**

- The High School Computer Science team placed third at the Providence College Annual High School Computer Science Competition, finishing in the top three for the second consecutive year.

#### **Music**

- Twenty-three Weston students were selected to participate in the 2003 Northeast Junior District Festival in Band, Orchestra and Chorus.
- Nineteen Weston students were selected to participate in the 2003 Northeast Senior District Festival in Band, Orchestra and Chorus.
- Nine students, Dan Rogers, Band; Nicholas Cuneo, Cody Wood and Dylan Wood, Orchestra; and Jonathan Carlson, John Condakes, John Dryden, Roderick McMullen and Jeff Remis, Chorus; were selected for the 2003 All State Band, Orchestra and Chorus, and performed at Symphony Hall on March 22, and Junior Brian Kelley, trumpet, was selected for the National High School Honors Orchestra.



*Visiting Russian students with their teacher.*

#### World Language Exchange

- The Weston International Affiliation, formerly known as Rombas, continued its fifty-one year tradition of sponsoring international student exchanges.
- Five Russian students and their teacher spent several days visiting the high school during a two-week trip to Weston organized by History teacher Jim Smith. The visitors stayed with Weston students and their families.

#### Sports

It was another outstanding year for Weston High School athletics:

- The Girls Track Team earned a runner-up trophy at the State Class "D" championship meet.
- Junior Kaitlin Machen was State Champion in the 300-meter race.
- Senior Kris Cook was a Division III State Champion in his weight class.
- The Field Hockey team won its second consecutive Eastern Massachusetts Division I championship and was runner-up in the State Finals for its second consecutive year.
- Senior Andrea Posa was named The Boston Globe Field Hockey Player of the Year.
- The Boys Swim Team won its fifth consecutive State Division II Championship and won the National Dual Meet Small Schools Championship.
- Senior David Warren was named an Academic All-American in Swimming.
- Eric Nilsson, Eliza Butts, Erica Stutius, Allison Simeone, and Bridget Appé were named High School All-Americans in Swimming.
- Freshman Eliza Butts was named The Boston Globe Swimmer of the Year.

#### **Conclusion**

The Weston Public Schools continued to provide an excellent public school education in 2003 and our students' many achievements demonstrate that they have benefited from the town's commitment to their education. Changing demographics and the need to find and retain qualified staff, continued uncertainty of federal and state funding while new mandates such as No Child Left Behind (NCLB) put additional pressures on school districts, and negotiations of all union contracts during a difficult fiscal climate present many challenges for the future. The School Committee, however, is committed to maintaining a high quality of education for all students in the community and will continue to focus its resources to meet the challenges ahead.

### PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS\*

	Oct. 1 1996	Oct. 1 1997	Oct. 1 1998	Oct. 1 1999	Oct. 1 2000	Oct. 1 2001	Oct. 1 2002	Oct. 1 2003
Kdg	159	167	168	177	172	181	160	166
Grade 1	160	166	176	177	186	181	185	173
Grade 2	173	177	181	177	183	182	184	201
Grade 3	165	188	184	189	183	187	171	188
Grade 4	174	180	190	191	197	185	193	175
Grade 5	185	178	184	196	193	196	188	196
Grade 6	130	185	179	183	198	190	192	179
Grade 7	130	137	185	177	181	193	193	192
Grade 8	140	133	140	185	179	176	197	196
Grade 9	136	117	113	143	174	169	164	185
Grade 10	120	139	116	106	143	167	171	155
Grade 11	97	111	136	120	106	139	161	164
Grade 12	98	93	110	128	120	108	140	160
TOTAL	1,867	1,971	2,062	2,149	2,215	2,254	2,299	2,330

\*These enrollments include nonresident as well as resident pupils registered in the schools.

### PRIVATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT\*\*

	1996- 1997	1997- 1998	1998- 1999	1999- 2000	2001- 2002	2002	2003	2004
Residents in Private School	315	324	351	364	416	419	418	
% of Residents in Private School	15.8	15.3	15.8	15.7	17.2	17.0	16.5	

\*\*Source: annual January 1 census conducted by the Town.

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF PUPILS PER CLASS - Grades K-8

Grade	Standards		Actual				
	Min	Max	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
K	17	23	22.1	19.1	20.1	17.8	20.8
1	17	23	22.1	20.7	20.1	20.6	19.2
2	18	24	22.1	22.9	20.2	20.4	22.3
3	19	25	23.6	22.9	20.8	19.0	20.9
4	20	26	21.2	21.9	20.6	21.5	21.9
5	20	26	21.8	21.4	21.8	23.5	21.8
6	21	27	22.9	22.0	21.1	21.3	19.9
7	20	26	22.1	22.6	21.5	21.5	21.3
8	21	27	23.1	22.4	22.0	21.9	21.8

**DISTRIBUTION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF BY SCHOOL LEVEL - 2003-2004**

	<u>High School</u> <i>(Grades 9-12)</i>	<u>Middle School</u> <i>(Grades 6-8)</i>	<u>Elementary Schools</u> <i>(Grades K-5)</i>
Administration	2.00	1.00	3.00
Supervisors	2.95	3.15	.40
Art	4.20	1.60	2.20
Business	1.00	0.23	--
English, Drama, & Dance	9.75	10.50	--
Foreign Language	8.25	4.30	2.20
Grades K-5	--	--	50.80
Guidance	4.10	3.00	3.00
Home Economics	1.00	--	--
Industrial Arts	--	.91	--
Math & Computers	10.50	8.00	2.50
Media Services	1.00	1.00	1.00
Music	1.06	1.46	3.65
Phys Ed./Athletics/Health	4.75	4.35	3.00
Reading Specialist	--	--	2.60
Science	8.75	6.30	1.00
Social Studies	8.50	6.30	--
Special Education	2.08	3.02	9.80
Student Activities	0.25	--	--
<b>TOTAL SCHOOLS</b>	<b>70.14</b>	<b>55.12</b>	<b>85.15</b>

In addition, there are 12.35 positions serving all schools and the pre-school, and 4.7 positions funded by State or Federal grants, for a total professional staff of 227.46, or 1.17 more than in 2002-2003.

**RECORD OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION PLACEMENT**

Class	Number of Graduates	% to 4 Year Colleges	% to Other Education	% of Total Continuing
1993	99	92	5	97
1994	98	88	7	95
1995	121	87	10	97
1996	110	86	10	96
1997	100	86	7	96
1998	92	95	2	97
1999	108	93	3	96
2000	130	91	6	97
2001	119	89	4	93
2002	111	84	10	94
<b>10 Yr. Avg.</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>96</b>
2003	140	91	5	96

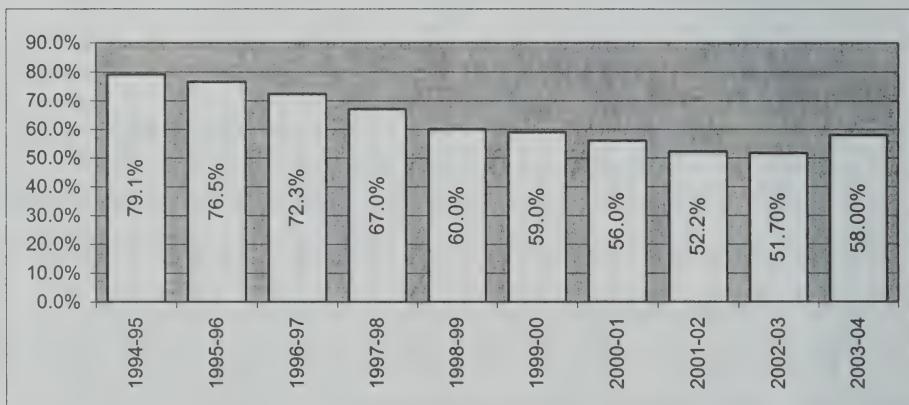
### PROFESSIONAL STAFF STATISTICS - 2003-2004

Educational services are provided to Weston students by 254 full and part time professionals – teachers, counselors, specialists, nurses, and administrators. Each one is a unique person with special talents and knowledge. The data below is an attempt to present a statistical picture of the Weston staff.

1. Education: Weston teachers are well educated: 78% have earned master's and doctoral degrees, and 32% have studied at least one year beyond the master's degree (master's + 30 credits). Fewer than half of the teachers were hired at the Bachelor degree level.
2. Experience: Approximately 58% of Weston teachers have twelve or more years of experience. Of the 30 new teachers hired this year 10 were hired at Step 1.

Teachers at Top Step

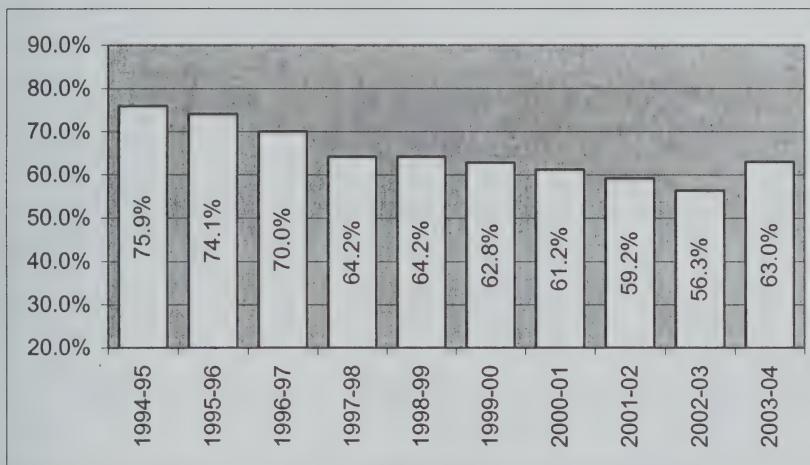
Fall 1994	79.1%	Fall 1999	59.0%
Fall 1995	76.5%	Fall 2000	56.0%
Fall 1996	72.3%	Fall 2001	52.2%
Fall 1997	67.0%	Fall 2002	51.7%
Fall 1998	60.0%	Fall 2003	58.0%



3. Professional Teacher Status: The percentage of teachers with "professional teacher status" has gone up slightly this year. This year 30 new teachers were added and 24 departed (2 were due to leaves of absence). Twenty teachers gained professional teacher status at the start of the school year.

Staff with Professional Teacher Status

Fall 1994	74.5%	Fall 1999	62.8%
Fall 1995	74.5%	Fall 2000	61.2%
Fall 1996	70.0%	Fall 2001	59.2%
Fall 1997	64.2%	Fall 2002	56.3%
Fall 1998	64.2%	Fall 2003	63.0%



4. Turnover: At the close of the 2002-03 school year 10% of the teachers left the Weston Public Schools. Of these, 96% left voluntarily.

Staff Turnover:

	<u>Left</u>	<u>Left Voluntarily</u>
1997-98	10.8%	90.0%
1998-99	11.9%	82.6%
1999-00	15.6%	80.0%
2000-01	10.5%	90.9%
2001-02	14.3%	90.9%
2002-03	10.0%	96.0%

**CENSUS OF RESIDENTS AGE 0-5**  
 As of January 1

BIRTH YEAR	CENSUS YEAR, JANUARY OF									
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
1989	132									
1990	157	164								
1991	113	118	129							
1992	121	140	150	169						
1993	105	124	128	134	160					
1994		106	120	127	135	153				
1995			134	137	144	152	173			
1996				103	113	121	145	156		
1997					133	144	157	187	187	
1998						119	141	163	170	172
1999							119	135	143	141
2000								100	105	112
2001									121	124
2002										96
TOTALS	628	652	661	670	685	689	735	741	726	645

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, PROFESSIONAL STAFF, AND EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL DATA

SCHOOL YEAR	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>										
October 1 Enrollment	440	433	451	460	475	497	543	583	636	664
No. of Staff*	40.35	41.75	43.1	44.1	51.85	53.2	55.95	63.75	67.3	70.1
Pupil-Staff Ratio	10.9	10.4	10.5	10.4	9.2	9.3	9.7	9.2	9.4	9.5
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>										
October 1 Enrollment	419	422	400	455	504	545	558	559	582	567
No. of Staff*	36.3	37.2	36.1	40.35	44.4	49.75	51.00	54.15	55.6	55.1
Pupil-Staff Ratio	11.5	11.3	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.0	10.9	10.3	10.5	10.3
<b>ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS</b>										
October 1 Enrollment	910	962	1,016	1,056	1,083	1,107	1,114	1,112	1,081	1,099
No. of Staff*	61.45	67.95	70.5	72.95	74.8	77.55	83.75	87.5	86.75	85.15
Pupil-Staff Ratio	14.8	14.2	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.3	13.3	12.7	12.5	12.9
<b>ALL SCHOOLS</b>										
October 1 Enrollment	1,769	1,817	1,867	1,971	2,062	2,149	2,215	2,254	2,299	2,330
Total Prof. Staff**^	144.4	154.45	157.8	165.55	179.5	190.6	201.3	215.8	221.7	222.7
Total Pupil-Staff Ratio	12.3	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.5	11.3	11.0	10.4	10.4	10.5
Expenditure Per Student	\$ 7,193	\$ 7,784	\$ 8,009	\$ 8,170	\$ 8,469	\$ 8,740	\$ 9,223	\$ 9,724	\$ 10,083	\$ 10,132/

\*Includes Teachers, Specialists, and Building Administrators

\*\*Includes Central Office Personnel

^Not including positions funded by State and Federal Grants  
/Based on Estimated Expenditure for year in progress

## REPORT OF THE WESTON INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

Established in 1950 by Town Meeting, the Weston International Affiliation (formerly the Weston Rombas Affiliation) oversees the town's two international student exchange programs, one with the town of Rombas, France, and one with a preparatory school in Porto Alegre, Brazil. We also help welcome any student from abroad who attends Weston High School.

Every year, the committee selects one Weston student to go to each of the two countries, and welcomes one student from each of our affiliated communities. The affiliation pays round trip airfare for the Weston students. We assist our visitors by finding homes for them and helping with academic and social adjustments and with expenses incurred while in Weston. These expenses include school accident insurance, some of the cost of the Close-Up trip to Washington, DC, or the full cost of the eighth grade trip there, yearbooks, special books and classroom supplies, sports deposits and other miscellaneous expenses. In 2003, we also helped to sponsor a group of five Russian students and their teacher for a two week long trip here.

Although we are an official town committee, we receive no tax money. Our funds come from an annual town-wide appeal, and from our spring brunch. Townspeople were generous as always in 2003, and we raised about six thousand dollars from these two sources. Contributions are tax deductible.

The affiliation is also grateful for the support we receive from the community in the form of housing for our visitors. Approximately ten families a year open their homes and hearts to these teenagers. Lasting ties often form, some of which now extend thirty or forty years. Each student usually stays about two months with five different families, thus seeing several versions of what an American family looks like. New host families are welcomed by the affiliation. We encourage families who cannot serve as hosts to participate by inviting our international students to a dinner, weekend trip, sport event, the movies, or another family activity.

### Highlights of 2003:

\*Our visiting scholars for the current school year are:

Rafael Guerra Jacintho from Porto Alegre, who has stayed with the families of Emily and Dave Hutcheson, and Henriette and John Power.

Jean-Charles Tijou from Rombas, whose hosts have been the families of Gilda and Joe Forte, and Carol and Henry Fizer.

Jean-Charles and Rafael were honored at the annual reception in September at which they were officially welcomed to the town by Selectman Harold Hestnes, Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Maloney, and World Languages Chair, Cindy Crimmin.



*Weston International Exchange students: Jean-Charles Tijou from Rombas, Daniella Forte from Weston, and Rafael Jacintho from Porto Alegre.*

\*In 2002-03, our exchange students were:

Jessica Ge from Rombas, whose hosts in 2003 were the families of Anthea and Bob Bowen, and of Henriette and John Power.

*Everton Assis* from Porto Alegre, who stayed with Yvonne and Rainer Sieber, Elizabeth Ross and Richard Wrangham, Tania and Jack Deary, Marlene Nordstrom and Ken Wood, and Becky and Dana Callow.

\*Weston students abroad:

*Mara Eagle* is spending the 2003-4 school year in Rombas. *Daniela Forte* returned from her year there in August to return to Weston High School as a junior.

Kaja Autler, mother of Lilian Autler (W-R '83), traveled in February to South America to see her daughter. The two of them went to Porto Alegre where they saw several former exchange students as well as Sonia Szewczyk, director of the Brazilian exchange.

Jim Smith, member of WIA and history teacher at the high school, helped organize a two-week trip to Weston for five Russian students and their teacher. WIA sponsored the group and welcomed them at our spring brunch. Later in the year, Weston High senior Elle Anatole met with some of these students on a trip to Russia with her family.

Carlie Grob (W-R '01-02) went to visit friends in Rombas in April; two of her French friends came to see her in the summer.

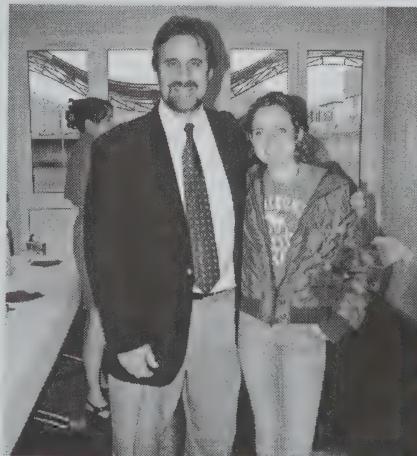
Jean-Louis Pironio, head of the French exchange, and his wife, Sylvie, came to Weston in May for the graduation of Joe Forte (W-R '96-97) from Boston College.

Cecile Tijou, (R-W '00-01) returned to Weston in July and August, leaving shortly before her brother, Jean-Charles, arrived for his year here.

In September Alan Oliff, Superintendent of Weston Public Schools, traveled with his wife, Alice, to Rombas where the Pironios and the whole French committee treated them to a wonderful three days. They visited the lycee and an elementary school and took part in the reception held by the town to welcome Mara Eagle.

Audrey Weiland (R-W '97-98) returned for a few weeks to Weston and was here for the fall reception.

The committee extends special thanks to the host families in all three participating countries. They provide the most essential ingredient for the success of this cultural exchange.



Weston School Superintendent Alan Oliff visits with Mara Eagle in Rombas. Mara is Weston's current representative to Rombas.

## WESTON WAR MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE

The Weston War Memorial Educational Fund Committee awarded \$14,000 in financial assistance to six Weston High School seniors during 2003. These awards are based on financial need, scholastic ability and school recommendations.

Retired committee member Aimo Teititinen passed away in 2003. The Weston War Memorial Education Fund Committee received many donations to the fund in his memory. "Tate" was a dedicated man who served the town well for many years. His sense of humor, helpfulness and guidance will be missed.

The Committee appreciates the continued support from the community to the annual fall fund drive.

Principal Balance, June 30, 2002:	\$226,783.00
Annual Fund Appeal:	4,365.00
Gain on Sale of Investments:	1,686.12
Principal Balance, June 30, 2003	\$232,834.12

## REPORT OF MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

### *School of Applied Arts & Sciences*

#### Class of 2003 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 91% of the Class of 2003 graduated into either college or employment in their field of study.
- 100% of Dental, Cosmetology and Early Childhood Education graduates passed the national or state certification examinations in their respective fields.
- More than 90% of graduates in Science Technology, Medical Occupations, Construction Trades and Commercial and Human Services either enrolled in college or found jobs in their fields of study.
- A Biotechnology Academy student was honored as an Outstanding Vocational Student of the Year by the Minuteman Regional School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, the State Board of Education and state Commissioner of Education.
- Another Biotechnology student earned a national second place in the prestigious Presidential Scholars Program.

#### Academic Division Highlights

- Minuteman sophomores tied for second place in Massachusetts among regional technical schools on MCAS test performance.
- 45 students took advantage of college level pre-calculus and calculus courses under an agreement with Middlesex Community College. A Biotechnology student placed fourth in the technical math competition at the Skills USA-VICA National Math Meet.
- Students on the Math Team competed strongly at all levels against academically diverse groups of area schools, finishing the year in first place in the state vocational conference.
- An on-line seminar provides training in Internet research, writing skills, software application usage and time management to Freshmen.

- The Special Education Department teamed with mainstream teachers to help students achieve one of the highest levels of special education MCAS “pass” scores in the state.

#### **Science & Technology Division Highlights**

- The Biotechnology Academy was designated an outstanding high school program by the National Center for Career and Technical Education at Ohio State University in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education.
- The Biotechnology Academy formed a new partnership with Harvard’s Molecular Biology Laboratory and Children’s Hospital and introduced bioethics, cell graphing and forensic science into its curriculum.
- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its fourth year. In co-operation with the University of Massachusetts, Minuteman offers college level engineering courses on Saturday mornings to serve students from local high schools.
- Two Electromechanical Robotics students took National Third Place in Skills USA-VICA National Competition on Team Robotics and Automation.
- Environmental Science students worked with the Bolton Conservation Commission to create a vernal-pool monitoring plan that includes a public information brochure for educating local homeowners on the subject.
- Many new business/industry projects were achieved, including:  
*Verizon* – after-school technology training for middle school students,  
*Cognex Corporation of Natick* -- weekly on-line interactive training on Visions Systems,  
*GTE* – helping with new physics units for biotechnology,  
*Northeast Center for Telecommunications* – grant assistance,  
*Adept Robots* – an \$80,000 gift for the Electromechanical Engineering/ Robotics program,
- Environmental Technology students worked in service projects for such agencies as the MWRA, Cambridge Water Department, Bolton Conservation Commission, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Northeastern University Marine Biology Research Laboratory, and the United States National Park Service, Minuteman National Historic Park.
- Minuteman staff members are active in working with the Department of Education in developing the vocational Certification of Occupational Proficiency (C.O.P.), including serving as state chairs for Engineering and for Office Technology and state vice-chair for Telecommunications.

#### **Construction - Power Mechanics - Building Trades Division Highlights**

- The Automotive Technology Department won the industry’s Most Outstanding Automotive Program in Massachusetts award for the fifth year in a row.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of a three-bedroom colonial home for the Lexington Housing Authority.
- Carpentry and Drafting students designed and constructed classroom improvements for two schools in Lincoln.
- Drafting & Design Technology students completed plans for a large garage to be built in Lexington.
- Student teams completed the reconstruction - design, construction and installation -- of the historic cannon stands for the Belmont Town Common.
- The Automotive Technology and Automotive Collision Repair programs both earned recertification through the National Automotive Technical Education Foundation.
- The Landscape Management Department won several awards, including their sixth consecutive First Place at the Annual New England Flower Show in Boston.

### Commercial & Human Services Division Highlights

- The Child Development Center and the Early Childhood Education department were recertified by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Not all commercial centers receive this certification.
- A three-student Retail Marketing & Management team placed first in state level entrepreneur competition among Distributive Education students. Another student won first place in the Massachusetts School Bank Association's annual essay contest. Both contests were held at the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston.
- Students hosted their annual "Breakfast with Santa" fund-raiser for Children's Hospital of Boston. Over the years, Minuteman students have donated more than \$10,000 to needy children.
- The Culinary Arts Department is preparing to become a certification site by the American Culinary Federation, due to be awarded in June 2004.
- For the second year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first place in the culinary competition at Newbury College earning \$7,000 in scholarships at the college.
- Graphics Communications students earned second and third place in a New England-wide poster design competition sponsored by the Printing & Publishing Council of New England.
- A junior Graphic Communications team worked with the Lahey Clinic, to designing and printing a 2004 calendar with artwork by children who are patients in the "young hearts" clinic.
- Culinary Arts Baking students won First and Second places in the National Skills USA-VICA skills competition.

- Overall Highlights and Honors

- A Freshman Exploratory program, designed to ensure that students experience each of Minuteman's twenty-three technical programs before choosing a major, was introduced. This program runs through half the year, exposing students to a variety of careers.
- **National Honor Society** -- The Minuteman Chapter of the National Honor Society served the school and the community with thousands of volunteer hours maintaining a solid and diverse membership while inducting twenty-four new members.
- A junior Biotechnology Academy student was a presenter at Harvard University's Junior Science Symposium.
- The School to Careers Partnership has formed a Minuteman Business/Education Alliance with 1,700 companies. This will allow Minuteman to facilitate communication and cooperative student-employer projects and internship opportunities for the district's 15 participating high schools.
- Community Education services, including After School programs for middle school students, Adult High School services, Evening and Continuing Education courses and Summer School programs and camps, provided to member town residents, enjoyed one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- Numerous staff development efforts focused on obtaining national rather than just state certification in graphics & digital media, culinary arts, and collision repair.

### Honors for the School

Minuteman was named one of the Top 50 schools in the *High Schools That Work* network of approximately 1,100 schools in 27 states across the country. Minuteman was the only school in Massachusetts selected for this honor. "The top 50 sites were chosen based on the performance of their students on the past two grade 12 National Assessment Educational Project-based assessments and evidence that the schools have implemented the ten key practices of *High Schools That Work*," wrote Massachusetts Commissioner of Education David P. Driscoll.

Dr. David Form, a Biotechnology Academy instructor at Minuteman was named the 2003 **Massachusetts Biology Teacher of the Year** by the National Association of Biology Teachers. The award was given "in recognition of excellence in the teaching of biology and service to the profession. Criteria for selection included innovation and sharing of information through community interaction. In addition to teaching Biotechnology at Minuteman for the past eight years, Dr. Form teaches a course in bioinformatics at Boston University and is developing a course for high school science teachers through the Whitehead Institute to introduce them to bioinformatics, a strategy of using computers and Internet sources to acquire, analyze and compare genes and proteins.

The Minuteman Automotive Academy was selected by the National Automotive Youth Educational Systems program as a site for high level career learning in the field and voted the **Most Outstanding Automotive Technology Program in Massachusetts** by the Industry Planning Council of New England.

For additional information visit our website at [www.minuteman.org](http://www.minuteman.org)

<b>MINUTEMAN FINANCIAL INFORMATION</b>					
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>FY 02 ACTUAL</b>	<b>FY03 BUDGET</b>	<b>FY03 ACTUAL/ ENCUMBERED</b>	<b>TRANSFER/ RECEIPTS</b>	<b>AVAILABLE</b>
District Assessment	\$7,252,023	\$7,497,855	\$7,497,855	\$ 0	\$ 0
Chapter 70 Aid	2,557,038	2,557,038	2,530,950	-	(26,088)
Current Tuition	0	279,289	304,528		25,239
Transportation Reimbursement	959,806	778,747	800,334	-	21,587
Choice	317,019	592,598	592,598		
Other Program Income	321,685	250,971	230,233		(20,738)
Certified E & D	84,697	15,185	15,185		
Previous Years' Tuition	2,945,017	3,701,837	3,701,837	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,437,285</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Instructional Cost	829,019	923,798	766,925	21,645	178,518
Administrative Cost	410,983	567,519	516,210	(10,291)	41,018
Risk Insurance	168,631	222,230	193,062	0	29,168
Salaries and Benefits	10,900,798	11,597,338	11,589,770	35,700	43,268
Facilities and Equipment	949,395	1,298,900	1,318,946	67,813	47,767
Transportation	1,067,811	1,055,885	1,048,873	0	7,012
Cafeteria	4,760	7,850	7,536	0	314
Debt Management	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 14,331,397</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 15,441,322</b>	<b>\$114,867</b>	<b>\$347,065</b>
<b>EXCESS REVENUE</b>	<b>\$105,888</b>		<b>\$ 232,198</b>	<b>\$114,867</b>	<b>\$ 347,065</b>

## TOWN RECORDS 2003 (Condensed)

### ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION May 12, 2003

Pursuant to a warrant duly served, the Annual Town Election was called to order in the Town Hall Auditorium by Warden Beverly Shepherd at 8 a.m. on May 12, 2003, for the election of Town Officers. Mrs. Shepherd swore the election officers to the faithful performance of their duties.

Total ballots cast were as follows:

Precincts 1 & 2	577
Precincts 3 & 4	<u>389</u>
TOTAL	966

Of the 459 ballots cast, 75 or 7.76% were cast by absentee ballot.

The results of the election were as follows:

<b>Moderator - One Year</b>			
Robert M. Buchanan*	111 Summer Street	Caucus Nominee	803
Blanks			158
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>5</u>
<b>Selectman - Three Years</b>			
Edward C. Michaud, Jr.	2 Sudbury Road	Caucus Nominee	199
Joan B. Vernon.	80 Fairview Road	Caucus Nominee	715
Blanks			50
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>2</u>
<b>Assessors - Three Years <i>Vote for Two</i></b>			
Gary C. Koger	20 Pond Brook Circle	Caucus Nominee	616
Phyllis R. Kominz	233 Glen Road	Caucus Nominee	657
Blanks			658
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
<b>Assessor - Two Years</b>			
Susan L. Kannenberg	115 Meadowbrook Road.	Caucus Nominee	372
Alan T. Orth	17 Warren Lane	Caucus Nominee	516
Blanks			78
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>0</u>
<b>Assessor - One Year</b>			
Michael Hoopes Harrity	695 Boston Post Road	Caucus Nominee	669
Blanks			296
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
<b>School Committee - Three Years <i>Vote for Two</i></b>			
Robert Anthony Nolan*	693 Boston Post Road	Caucus Nominee	703
Maryanne R. Rogers	9 Lanes End Road	Caucus Nominee	676
Blanks			547
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>6</u>

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\* Indicates incumbent

	<b>School Committee - Two Years</b>		
Bella T. Wong	334 South Avenue	Caucus Nominee	709
Blanks			255
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>2</u>
	<b>Recreation Commission - Three Years <i>Vote for Two</i></b>		
Gregory Czarnowski*	87 Brook Road	Caucus Nominee	698
Robert C. Millen, Jr.*	427 Conant Road	Caucus Nominee	745
Blanks			486
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>3</u>
	<b>Planning Board - Five Years</b>		
Lee C. Fernandez*	16 Love Lane.	Caucus Nominee	684
Blanks			281
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
	<b>Planning Board - Two Years</b>		
David O. Mendelsohn*	33 Spruce Hill Road	Caucus Nominee	689
Blanks			276
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
	<b>Library Trustees - Three Years <i>Vote for Two</i></b>		
William D. Hartman*	90 Montvale Road	Caucus Nominee	692
Charles G.. (Tod) Foote*	324 Merriam Street	Caucus Nominee	714
Blanks			526
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>1</u>
	<b>Board of Health -Three Years</b>		
Peter K. Taylor*	33 Conant Road	Caucus Nominee	698
Blanks			268
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>0</u>
	<b>Commissioner of Trust Funds - Three Years</b>		
Thomas E. Bator*	78 School Street	Caucus Nominee	684
Blanks			282
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>0</u>
	<b>Measurers of Lumber -One Year <i>Vote for Three</i></b>		
David C. Bennett*	56 Westland Road	Caucus Nominee	633
Barrett W. Gilchrist*	75 Warren Avenue	Caucus Nominee	628
Rosemary Broton Boyle*	261 Merriam Street	Caucus Nominee	627
Blanks			1004
<u>Scattering</u>			<u>6</u>

#### QUESTION NO. 1:

Shall the Town of Weston be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half, so called, the amount required to pay for the bond(s) issued in order to design, engineer, construct and equip the following, including all costs incidental and related thereto: (1) Retaining Wall Rehabilitation-Church Street; (2) Drainage Rehabilitation-Pond Brook Circle/Ledgewood Road; (3) Case Complex - Traffic Safety and Parking Improvements; (4) Road Improvements; (5) DPW Repairs-Environmental Compliance Audit Phase I; (6) Resurfacing of the High School Track; (7) School Bus Replacement; and (8) DPW Vehicle Replacement?

Yes: 683    No: 217    Blanks: 66

## SUMMARY

State law provides for an exemption from the limits of Proposition 2 ½ of the amounts required to pay for the debt service for bond issues approved by the voters.

Question 1 would so exempt the debt service for the bonds that will be issued for the following purposes:

1.	Retaining Wall Rehabilitation - Church Street	\$100,000
2.	Drainage Rehabilitation - Pond Brook Circle/Ledgewood Road	\$300,000
3.	Case Complex, Traffic Safety and Parking Improvements	\$150,000
4.	Road Improvements	\$100,000
5.	DPW Repairs-Environmental Compliance Audit Phase I	\$85,000
6.	Resurfacing of the High School Track	\$150,000
7.	School Bus Replacement	\$150,000
8.	DPW Vehicle Replacement	<u>\$130,000</u>
	Total	\$1,165,000

The annual debt service for these projects will be approximately \$229,000 in FY04, decreasing each year over the following 10 year period. This exemption shall be deemed approved if a majority of the persons voting thereon vote "yes."

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

May 12, 2003

Pursuant to a warrant, duly served, Robert M. Buchanan, the Moderator called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. in the auditorium of the Weston High School. The Moderator declared a quorum present and proceeded with the reading of the Warrant and the Return of Service.

The Moderator appointed tellers and swore them to their duties.

Tellers in the Auditorium:	John Carusone	Lisa Carusone
	Jonathon Lurie	Jacqueline Haas

**ARTICLE 1: Mr. Douglas Gillespie moved:** that the Town amend and supersede certain parts of the FY03 operating budget adopted under Article 4 of the 2002 Annual Town Meeting and amended under Article 1 of the November 2002 Special Town Meeting, by deleting amounts of money appropriated under some of the line items and appropriating new amounts:

	Changing From	Changing To
Facilities Maintenance, Salaries	\$59,145	\$53,145
Facilities Maintenance, Expenses	\$62,677	\$68,677
Fire, Hydrant Service	\$252,194	\$42,194
DPW, Snow and Ice Control	\$117,300	\$327,300
Recreation, Salaries	\$555,182	\$580,182
Recreation, Expenses	\$213,975	\$188,975

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2: Mr. Douglas Gillespie moved:** that the Town amend and supersede certain parts of the FY03 Water Enterprise budget adopted under Article 3 of the 2002 Annual Town Meeting

and amended under Article 3 of the November 2002 Special Town Meeting, by deleting amounts of money appropriated under some of the line items and appropriating new amounts:

	Changing	Changing
	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
MWRA Assessment/Water Purchases	\$975,000	\$992,151

And that \$17,151 be appropriated from free cash as supplemental funding therefore.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 3: Mr. Douglas Gillespie moved:** to appropriate the sum of \$24,626.45 to the use of the Department of Public Works for the replacement of a vehicle, the money so appropriated to be transferred from the account "Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, Insurance Reimbursement in Excess of \$20,000."

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

A *motion to dissolve* Special Town Meeting was adopted at 7:40 P.M.

During the period between the end of the Special Town Meeting and the beginning Annual Town meeting the following two resolutions were adopted:

*Resolved:* We, the citizens of Weston assembled in Annual Town Meeting; take notice that **Dr. John A. Stayn** has given notice of retirement after forty years of service to the Town.

John served first as a High School Science teacher and for the past thirty-three years as Assistant Superintendent for Business Services. He was also a high school assistant principal and twice the Acting Superintendent of Schools. He has been responsible for the fiscal and physical condition of the school system including the oversight of budgets, the renovation of Field School, the renovation and expansion of the High School, Middle School and Woodland School, the building of the new Country School, the creation and maintenance of playing fields, represented the Town in collective bargaining and has overseen the transportation of thousands of Weston school children to and from school. In addition he has served as trusted advisor to superintendents and School Committees. His intelligence, knowledge, integrity, sense of humor and gentle manners will be missed by all.

We express our sincere thanks and appreciation to John for his years of dedicated service to the town and his innumerable contributions to the education of Weston School Children.

*Further resolved:* that this resolution be spread upon the records of the town and a copy sent to Dr. Stayn.

*Resolved:* We, the citizens of Weston assembled in Annual Town Meeting; take notice that **Dr. Richard Houde** has decided to retire from the Weston Schools.

Richard was hired thirty-one years ago as a Mathematics Department Head and teacher. He proceeded to inspire students and colleagues alike to learn and love this discipline. Seventeen years later he became Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. In this capacity he has led and successfully established Weston through a new era of Educational Reform including the mandated lengthening of the school day, the institution of curriculum standards at every grade, and the implementation of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests. He has been responsible for the establishment of improved and more efficacious curricula, school configurations, innovative programs and the mentoring and professional development of a new generation of faculty members.

All who know Richard will miss his intelligence, good humor and optimism; we are most grateful for his dedication and contribution to the students and the educational system of Weston and the town as a whole.

*Further resolved:* that this resolution be spread upon the records of the town and a copy sent to Dr. Houde.

*Mr. Gillespie expressed gratitude to the following individuals who have left or are leaving office:*

<u>Elected Officers:</u>	<u>Office or Committee</u>	<u>Served Since</u>
Ripley Hastings	Board of Selectmen	1997
Phyllis Goodman	Board of Assessors	1997
Peter Casey	Board of Assessors	(appointed to fill a vacancy in 2002)
Darcy Lettieri	School Committee	1997
Claudia Birnbaum	School Committee	1999
Katharine Smith	School Committee	(appointed to fill a vacancy in 2003)
G. Roger Lee	Planning Board	1990
James R. Nichols	Commissioners of Trust Funds	1976

Officers and Committee members appointed by the Selectmen

Connie Davis	Alcohol & Drug Education Advisory Committee	1996
Eugenia Masland	Council on Aging	2001
Imogene Fish	Conservation Commission and Community Preservation Committee	1991 2001
Charles Whitney	Conservation Commission	1995
Joseph Ferguson	Cultural Council	1999
Christine Martin	Cultural Council	1996
Mary M. Pughe	Historical Commission	1991
Joseph W. Mullin	Housing Needs Committee and Community Preservation Committee	1999 2001
Ronald Benotti	Committee on Safety and Flow of Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic	1994
Chantal Buchanan	Traffic Advisory Committee	2000

Appointed by Moderator

William Cress	Elderly Housing Committee	1995
Barbara J. Hill, Esq.	Finance Committee	1999
Mark Horowitz	Weston International Affiliation Committee	1999
Colin Harley	Weston International Affiliation Committee	2000
Harry B. Jones	Weston War Memorial Educational Fund Committee	1957

The following committees were discharged with thanks for having completed their required duties:

Assessing Review Committee (Created 2002)

Joan B. Vernon, Chair	Phyllis S. Kominz
Robert E. Buonato	Ann G. Leibowitz
Steven L. Charlip	Carol Lutz Norquist
James T. Jensen	Eric Josephson, Chief Assessor
Carl F. Valente, Town Manager	

**Committee To Study Employee Health Insurance Matters** (*Created in 1994*)

Joseph Ambash

Peter Yozell

**Committee to Advise on the Community Preservation Act**

(*Created in 2000 – prior to that it was the Committee to study Proposals for a Land Bank -- created 1997 following dissolution in 2001 it was replaced by a current Community Preservation Committee with somewhat different membership*)

Robin Reisman, Chair

Lenore Zug Lobel

George P. Bates

Kay McCahan

Robert D. Brown

Joseph W. Mullin

Diana Chaplin

Ned Rossiter

Pamela W. Fox

Sherley Smith

**Community Center Study Committee** (*created in 1978*)

Blake Munson

Linda Perrin

*Both have been on the committee since its inception*

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

*May 12, 2003*

Pursuant to a warrant, duly served, Robert M. Buchanan, the Moderator called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:45 P.M. in the auditorium of the Weston High School. The Moderator declared a quorum present and proceeded with the reading of the Warrant and the Return of Service.

**ARTICLE 1:** **M. Elizabeth Nolan**, Town Clerk read the results of the May 12, 2003 Annual Town Election, which results appear in the report of the Town Election (above).

**ARTICLE 2:** **Mr. Douglas Gillespie moved:** that the Town accept M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F½ establishing a Recreation Enterprise Fund, to be effective for fiscal year 2004.

Mr. Gillespie explained to Town Meeting members that the Recreation Enterprise Fund would be funded by both Town funds (30%) and recreation fees (70%).

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 3:** **Mr. Gillespie moved:** that the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during fiscal year 2004, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F½

Salaries	\$653,437
Expenses	377,690
Community Center	64,200
Total	\$1,095,327

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 4:** **Mr. Gillespie moved:** that the Town accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 2A(a), allowing the Assessors to include for the purpose of taxation, those buildings, structures and other physical improvements that are erected on or affixed to land during the period beginning on January 2 and ending on June 30 of the fiscal year preceding that to which the tax relates.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 5: Mr. Gillespie moved (1):** that the several sums of money recommended by the Board of Selectmen for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2003, in accordance with Section 5 of ARTICLE II of the General By-laws, as amended, and set forth in pages 5-8 of the report entitled, "FY04 Recommended Operating Budget," be raised and appropriated for their respective purposes as set forth on said pages, with the following exceptions:

- On page 8 of said report delete all amounts under the titles, "Cultural and Leisure Services, Recreation" and change the Total Cultural and Leisure Services to \$888,149.
- On page 8 of said report change Total Budget Appropriations to \$43,197,563.
- And that \$86,246 be funded by appropriating the balances from the following Continuing Balance Accounts: \$24,412 from the Playing Field Study accounts; \$10,779 from the Housing Needs Committee account; \$7,307 from the Recycling and Energy Conservation Account; and \$43,748 from the Cemetery Water Line account.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

*The Budget for Fiscal Year 2004 as approved by the Vote under Article 5(1) of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Weston on May 12, 2003:*

FY04 RECOMMENDED OPERATING BUDGET		Approved Fiscal Year 2004
TITLE OF ACCOUNTS <sup>+</sup>		
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>		
Insurance & Fringe Benefits	Insurance, Workers' Compensation	175,000
	Unemployment Compensation	50,000
	Insurance-Group Health/Life, Medicare	5,688,593
	Contributory Retirement-Middlesex	1,652,001
	Insurance-Property & Liability	304,425
	Public Safety - Injured on Duty+	2,400
	Uninsured Losses+	7,500
	Subtotal	7,879,919
Compensated Absence Fund+		7,500
Street Lighting	Expenses	111,300
Reserve Fund		350,000
Debt Service (non-excluded)	Principal & Interest	197,448
<b>TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED</b>		<b>8,546,167</b>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>		
Selectmen/Town Manager	Salaries	302,203
	Expenses	83,521
	Consulting & Professional Services+	25,000
	Subtotal	410,724
Merit Pay	Transfer Account	34,647
Legal	Expenses	141,800
Facilities Maintenance	Salaries	61,228
	Expenses	99,505
	Town Hall Equipment+	5,000

<sup>+</sup> NOTE: Accounts indicated by + are continuing appropriations, the balance of which shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

	Test/Replace Underground Storage Tanks+	--
	Facilities Improvements-Town-wide+	100,000
	Subtotal	265,73
War Memorial Educational Fund Committee	Expenses	1,200
Memorial Day	Expenses	784
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>		<b>854,888</b>
<b>FINANCE &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>		
Finance Committee	Expenses	2,320
Finance	Salaries-Elected Officials	500
	Salaries	542,585
	Expenses	120,620
	Revaluation of Real & Personal Property+	-
	Subtotal	663,705
Town Clerk & Registrars of Voters	Salary-Elected Official	150
	Salaries	75,862
	Expenses	12,175
	Subtotal	88,187
Information Systems	Salaries	75,626
	Expenses	96,939
	Computer Hardware & Maintenance+	53,300
	Subtotal	225,865
<b>TOTAL FINANCE &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>980,077</b>
<b>PLANNING &amp; LAND USE</b>		
Clerks of Committees	Salaries	90,845
Board of Appeals	Expenses	4,905
Planning Board	Salaries	68,901
	Expenses	37,000
	Subtotal	105,901
Conservation Commission	Expenses	89,350
Historical Commission	Expenses	4,000
Crescent St. Historic District Commission	Expenses	100
<b>TOTAL PLANNING &amp; LAND USE</b>		<b>295,101</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		
Police	Salaries	2,074,932
	Expenses	200,671
	Equipment and Apparatus+	76,000
	Police - Injured on Duty+	-
	Subtotal	2,351,603
Fire	Salaries	1,883,609
	Expenses	148,217
	Hydrant Service	50,000
	Emergency Management+	4,000
	Equipment and Apparatus+	8,000
	Firefighters - Injured on Duty+	-
	Subtotal	2,093,826

Inspectional Services	Salaries	124,058
	Expenses	10,292
	Subtotal	134,350
Traffic Signals	Maintenance & Operation	5,860
Dog Officer	Salaries	4,900
	Expenses	3,000
	subtotal	7,900
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		<b>4,593,539</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
School Department	Salaries	19,069,525
	Instructional, Maint & Other Expenses	3,571,175
	Transportation	966,565
	Subtotal	23,607,265
Minuteman Regional Vocational		
Technical School District	Assessment	54,224
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>		<b>23,661,489</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>		
	Salaries	1,454,228
	Expenses	891,303
	Snow and Ice Control	117,300
	Equipment+	-
	Guard Rail Rehab+	-
	Construction of Public Ways+	150,000
	Lexington Street Speed Humps+	-
	Construction of Sidewalks, Bicycle Paths, & Footways+	35,000
	Monitoring Groundwater - Landfill+	27,500
	Recycling & Energy Conservation+	-
	Parks & Cemeteries Improvements+	-
	Subtotal Continuing Balance Accounts	212,500
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>		<b>2,675,331</b>
<b>HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</b>		
Board of Health	Salaries	147,273
	Expenses	9,410
	Mental Health Services	31,722
	Subtotal	188,405
Mosquito Control, E. Middlesex Project	Expenses	29,867
Brook School Apartments	Salaries	89,857
	Expenses	145,912
	Repairs & Replacements+	65,000
	Subtotal	300,769

Council on Aging	Salaries	120,728
	Expenses	10,565
	Senior Work Program	-
	Subtotal	131,293
Youth Counseling Services	Salaries	48,723
	Expenses	765
	Subtotal	49,488
Alcohol & Drug Education		
Advisory Committee	Expenses	2,000
Veterans' Benefits	Expenses	1,000
<b>TOTAL HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</b>		<b>702,822</b>
<b>CULTURAL &amp; LEISURE SERVICES</b>		
Libraries	Salaries	641,920
	Expenses	139,429
	Library Materials	73,995
	Minuteman Library Network+	32,805
	Subtotal	888,149
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL &amp; LEISURE SERVICES</b>		<b>888,149</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS</b>		<b>43,197,563</b>

Mr. Gillespie moved (2): that the compensation for the following elected officers of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2003, as required by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, be fixed at:

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

Mr. Gillespie moved (3): that five persons be appointed by the Moderator to serve as a Memorial Day Committee in 2004 with authority to expend for the 2004 Memorial Day observance \$784 appropriated for that purpose by previous vote under this Article .

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

Mr. Gillespie moved (4): that in purchasing property or equipment, any allowance for turning in other property or equipment may be applied to the purchase price.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 6: Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Water Division of the DPW during fiscal year 2004; under the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 53½:

Salaries	\$218,551
Expenses	0,508
MWRA Assessment/Water Purchases	1,065,000
Debt Service (non-exempt)	79,342
Capital Outlay	75,000
Total	\$1,608,401

Said sum to be funded from water receipts.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 7:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town transfer \$1,558,683 from the Free Cash Account (Undesignated Fund Balance), \$198,000 from Overlay Surplus, \$110,000 from the "Accrued Income, Litigation Settlement" account, \$55,000 from the Recreation Special Programs Revolving account, \$30,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund and \$7,000 from the Josiah Smith Tavern Trust Fund to meet, in part, appropriations made at this Town Meeting, and to authorize the Board of Assessors to use such available funds to meet appropriations in their computation of the tax rate for fiscal year 2004.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 8:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town continue revolving funds for certain Town departments pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 53E½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003:

Revolving Fund	Authority to Spend	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY04 Budget
Recreation Special Programs	Recreation Director	Program Fees	Program Costs and Related Building Maintenance	\$ 339,500
Historic Marker	Historical Commission	Program Fees	Costs Related to Purchase of Historic Markers	\$ 1,500
Josiah Smith Tavern	Town Manager	Rental Fees	Building Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 5,500
Council on Aging Special Programs	Council on Aging Director	Program Fees	Program Expenses	\$ 20,000

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 9:** Mr. Harold Hestnes moved: that the Town support continuing the property tax surcharge of three percent of the taxes assessed annually on real property which shall be dedicated to the Community Preservation Fund, such surcharge to be imposed on taxes assessed for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2004.

Steve Ober stated the Finance Committee needed to get a "sense of Town Meeting" regarding the future continuation of the CPA's 3% surcharge on real estate tax bills. The Finance Committee had no recommendation regarding the surcharge. The Selectmen agreed that a sense of Town meeting was helpful and supported the motion. George Amadon of the Weston Historical Society and Dexter Freeman, Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee, spoke in favor of the motion.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 10:** Mr. Dexter Freeman moved: that the Town hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2004 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund:

\$44,000 to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2004;

and further, that the Town reserve for appropriation the following amounts as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

\$220,000 for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space excluding land for recreational use;

\$220,000 for acquisition, preservation rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; and

\$220,000 for the creation, preservation and support of community housing.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 11:** **Mr. Freeman moved:** that the Town appropriate \$336,000 for the principal and interest payments related to the purchase of Open Space known as the Sunday Woods parcel, which was approved for purchase under ARTICLE 6 of the May 2002 Annual Town Meeting, said sum to be transferred from the Open Space Reserve.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 12:** **Mr. Freeman moved:** that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase for community housing and historic resource purposes under the Community Preservation Program an affordable housing restriction and an historic preservation restriction in land located at 809-811 Boston Post Road in the Town of Weston, Massachusetts shown as Assessors Map 25, Block 20, containing 3.05 acres more or less, and more fully described in a deed recorded in the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 12553, Page 255, said restrictions to be held, managed, and controlled by the Historical Commission and/or Board of Selectmen and as funding therefore, to transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resources Reserve \$225,000 and to transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve \$160,000.

Mr. Ned Rossiter, member of the CPA and the Historic Commission, speaking in favor of the motion explained the Town's purchase of an historic preservation restriction on the property would save the house and barn from demolition. The historic preservation restriction would require the facades to remain unchanged from the street view. No fence or planting in the front of the house would be allowed. Richard Batchelder, member of the housing needs committee, supporting the motion explained the affordable housing restriction would be in perpetuity on two of the units. Judy Markland and Alfred Aydelott addressed the concerns of neighbors, stating the CPA committee members and the developer continue to address neighborhood concerns. Mr. John Noone spoke in opposition.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 13:** **Mr. Hestnes moved:** that the Town accept, for Fiscal Year 2004, the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, which amends chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws relative to real estate property tax exemptions and to approve an increase in the amount of 100 percent for each eligible exemption.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 14:** **Mr. Ripley Hastings moved:** that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to lease property owned by the Town, under the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen, located at 626 Boston Post Road and shown as Assessors' Map 27, block 49 and constituting the site of the Fiske Law Office, for such term of up to 20 years, and on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine, and to that end, to change the purpose for which the property is held, from being held for general municipal purposes to being held for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of leasing.

This motion would permit certain historic structures, including the Fiske Law Office, to be used for limited conventional purposes. The Fiske Law Office extensive chimney repair was completed and the septic improvement was still in the works.

**The motion was adopted by a voice vote.**

**ARTICLE 15:** Mr. Hastings moved: that the Town accept Scotch Pine Road, or portions thereof, which has been constructed pursuant to the requirements of the Town and has been laid out by the Board of Selectmen according to plans on file with the Town Clerk, including the taking or acceptance of easements as shown on said plans.

**The motion was passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 16** Mr. Alfred Aydelott moved: That Section IV.B.6 of the Town of Weston Zoning By-Law be amended in order to conform the description of the Personal Wireless Services Overlay District I boundary to the district boundary changes voted as an amendment to Section V.J.3 under Article 12 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting, by:

(a) deleting entirely the following entry:

"Map 20 & 21: West of Gun Club Lane along Boston & Maine Railroad right of way, Boston Edison Company;" and

(b) substituting for the entry which now reads:

"Map #27, parcel #74: Town of Weston Highway Department and Police Station;"

the following two new entries:

"Map #27, parcel #75-10, Town of Weston Police Station;" and  
"A portion of Map #27, parcel #74, described as follows:

All that certain Parcel of land located on the southerly side of Boston Post Road By-pass (Route 20) and described as follows:

SOUTHEASTERLY by land of Town of Weston (Weston Police Station) three hundred seventy-two and 61/100 (372.61) feet;

SOUTHERLY by land of Town of Weston (Weston Highway Department) fifty and 00/100 (50) feet;

NORTHWESTERLY by land of the Town of Weston (Weston Highway Department) three hundred thirty-three (333) feet approximately;

NORTHERLY by land of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Boston Post Road By-Pass, Route 20) sixty-five (65) feet approximately;

containing 0.4 acres, more or less, Town of Weston Highway Department."

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 16 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003, and became effective on February 25, 2004.*

**ARTICLE 17:** Mr. Hestnes moved: that the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money:

Purpose	Amount	Expend Under Direction of:
A Fire Captain's Vehicle	\$40,000	Town Manager
B. Recreation: Pick-up Truck	\$19,000	Town Manager
C. Fire: Alarm Recorder	\$25,000	Town Manager

The motion passed unanimously.

**ARTICLE 18** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$28,000 for extraordinary repairs at the DPW building, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

The motion passed unanimously.

**ARTICLE 19** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$200,000 for the construction or reconstruction of surface drains and all incidental costs related thereto, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

The motion passed unanimously.

**ARTICLE 20:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$100,000 to reconstruct, resurface, alter or make specific repairs to the roadways, and all incidental costs related thereto, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

The motion passed unanimously.

**ARTICLE 21:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$60,000 for extraordinary repairs to the Library, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager and Library Trustees, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of

said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 22:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$200,000 for the purchase and installation of computer hardware, software and other costs related to the implementation of a geographic information system, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

Ms. Christine Mendelson, supporting the motion, stated GIS was good software and the Town would benefit from this appropriation.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 23:** Mr. Gillespie moved: that the Town appropriate \$250,000 for water system equipment, including engineering design and contract administration, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 24:** Mr. Ripley Hastings moved: that the Town appropriate \$925,000 for preventing pollution caused by the Town's closed landfill on Church Street, to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under the authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 25:** Ms. Maureen Ecker moved: that the Town appropriate \$75,000 for the cost of departmental equipment and all incidental costs related thereto, to be spent under the direction of the School Committee, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in

conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 26:** Ms. Ecker moved: that the Town appropriate \$50,000 for the resurfacing of various school roadways and parking areas, to be spent under the direction of the School Committee, the money so appropriated to be raised by borrowing under authority of M.G.L. chapter 44, section 7, or any other enabling authority, and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to prepare, issue and sell bonds and notes of the Town at one time, or from time to time, and to determine in conformity to law the period or periods of the loans or loans, all particulars as to form, issue and sale of said bonds or notes, their annual maturities and the rate and times of payment of interest on them.

Ms. Ecker corrected the explanation in the Town Meeting booklet, which explanation incorrectly included the resurfacing of Alphabet Lane. The resurfacing of Alphabet Lane is not included in the motion.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 27:** Mr. Hastings moved: that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by:

1) Deleting in its entirety ARTICLE II, Sections 13 and 14.

2) Deleting in its entirety ARTICLE XXVI and renumbering all remaining Articles.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 27 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

**ARTICLE 28:** Mr. Hastings moved: that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by deleting Article XX, Section 1 in its entirety and replacing it with:

"Section 1. Upon application to the Board of Selectmen by a majority of the abutters on a private way, open to public use within the Town, and in need of repair, the Board of Selectmen may approve the temporary repair and maintenance of such private way. The cost and payment procedures for said repair and maintenance shall be determined by the Town Manager."

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 28 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

**ARTICLE 29:** Mr. Hastings moved: that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by deleting Article I, Section 9 in its entirety and replacing it as follows:

"Section 9. All votes, unless otherwise provided by the laws of the Commonwealth, shall be taken in the first instance by a "Yes" and "No" voice vote. If a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting is required by statute or otherwise, a count shall not be taken unless it is deemed necessary by the Moderator in the fulfillment of the duties of the office. If the Moderator is in doubt as to the result of any voice vote, or if any registered voter immediately doubts the

vote, the Moderator shall call for a standing vote or for a vote by ballot as the Moderator may determine."

Ms. Erica Saunders asked if Town Meeting members would be able to return to standing votes if there were problems with the new bylaw. Mr. Hasting stated that under the new bylaw, any voter would be able to stand-up and ask for a standing vote and, like any bylaw, this bylaw could always be amended.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 29 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

**ARTICLE 30: Mr. Hastings moved:** that the Town petition the General Court for a special act providing that legislation be adopted as set forth in Article 30 of the Warrant; and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

The text of the legislation requested under Article 30 is as follows:

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WESTON TO REGULATE CERTAIN  
PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ELDERLY**

**Section 1.** Notwithstanding clause Forty-first A of Section 5 of chapter 59 of the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, and subject to Sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, the board of assessors of the town of Weston shall defer the real estate property tax payment for property of a person 60 years of age or older and occupied by him/her as his/her domicile, or a person who owns the same jointly with his/her spouse, either of whom is 60 years or older and occupied as their domicile, or of a person who owns the same jointly or is a tenant in common with a person not his/her spouse and occupied by him/her as his/her domicile, if the person claiming the exemption, either alone or together with his/her spouse, had combined income during the preceding year of an amount not to exceed the amount established by the Board of Selectmen and ratified by vote of the Annual Town Meeting, provided that such person has owned and occupied as his/her domicile such real property in the Town of Weston for five years or is a surviving spouse who inherits such real property and has occupied such real property as his or her domicile in the Town of Weston for five years and who otherwise qualifies under this Act.

**Section 2.** Any such person may, on or before December 15 of each year to which the tax relates or within 3 months after the date on which the bill or notice is first sent, whichever is later, apply to the board of assessors for an exemption of all or part of such real property from taxation during such year; provided, however, that in the case of real estate owned by a person jointly or as a tenant in common with a person not his spouse, the exemption shall not exceed that proportion of total valuation which the amount of his interest in such property bears to the whole tax due. The board of assessors shall grant such exemption, provided that the owner or owners of such real property have entered into a tax deferral and recovery agreement with the board of assessors on behalf of the Town. The said agreement shall provide:

(1) that no sale or transfer of such real property may be consummated unless the taxes which would otherwise have been assessed on such portion of the real property as is so exempt

have been paid, with interest at the rate set by the board of selectmen provided that the rate set by the selectmen shall never exceed the limit established under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, section 5, clause 41A and as may be amended;

(2) that the total amount of such taxes due, plus interest, for the current and prior years does not exceed 50 per cent of the owner's proportional share of the full and fair cash value of such real property;

(3) that upon the demise of the owner of such real property, the heirs-at-law, assignees or devisees shall have first priority to the real property by paying in full the total taxes which would otherwise have been due, plus interest; provided, however, that if such heir-at-law, assignee or devisee is a surviving spouse who enters into a tax deferral and recovery agreement under this clause, payment of the taxes and interest due shall not be required during the life of such surviving spouse. Any additional taxes deferred, plus interest, on said real property under a tax deferral and recovery agreement signed by a surviving spouse shall be added to the taxes and interest which would otherwise have been due, and the payment of which has been postponed during the life of such surviving spouse, in determining the 50 per cent requirement of subparagraph (2);

(4) that if the taxes due, plus interest, are not paid by the heir-at-law, assignee or devisee or if payment is not postponed during the life of a surviving spouse, such taxes and interest shall be recovered from the estate of the owner; and

(5) that any joint owner or mortgagee holding a mortgage on such property has given written prior approval for such agreement, which written approval shall be made a part of such agreement.

**Section 3.** In the case of each tax deferral and recovery agreement entered into between the board of assessors and the owner or owners of such real property, the board of assessors shall forthwith cause to be recorded in the registry of deeds of Middlesex County a statement of its action which shall constitute a lien upon the land covered by such agreement for such taxes as have been assessed under this act, plus interest as hereinafter provided. A lien filed pursuant to this act shall be subsequent to any liens securing a reverse mortgage, excepting shared appreciation instruments. The statement shall name the owner or owners and shall include a description of the land adequate for identification. Unless such a statement is recorded the lien shall not be effective with respect to a bona fide purchaser or other transferee without actual knowledge of such lien. The filing fee for such statement shall be paid by the town and shall be added to and become a part of the taxes due.

**Section 4.** In addition to the remedies provided by this act, the recorded statement of the assessors provided for in this act shall have the same force and effect as a valid taking for nonpayment of taxes under section 53 of chapter 60 of the General Laws, except that: (1) interest shall accrue at the rate provided in this act until the conveyance of the property or the death of the person whose taxes have been deferred, after which time interest shall accrue at the rate provided in section 62 of said chapter 60; (2) no assignment of the municipality's interest under this act may be made pursuant to section 52 of said chapter 60; (3) no petition under section 65 of said chapter 60 to foreclose the lien may be filed before the expiration of 5 months from the conveyance of the property or the death of the person whose taxes have been deferred.

**Section 5.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**ARTICLE 31:** Ms. Judith Markland moved that Article 31 be passed over and so disposed of.

The motion was adopted by a voice vote.

The text of the warrant article under Article 31 was as follows:

**ARTICLE 31: AMEND GENERAL BY-LAW, ARTICLE XXIX: DEMOLITION DELAY**  
To see if the Town will vote to amend ARTICLE XXIX of the Town's General By-Laws by making the following changes:

Add a new Section X:

"X. No permit for demolition of a building determined to be a preferably preserved significant building under subsection VII of this section shall be granted until plans for use or development of the site after demolition have been filed with the Building Department and found to comply with all the laws pertaining to the issuance of a building permit for that site; or, if for a vacant lot use, until plans have been filed with the Building Inspector showing the vacant lot use and detailing the plans to remove or fill any foundation or other subsurface structure, including sanitary septic system components, walls, and dry wells, and including proper regrading of the site. All approvals necessary for the issuance of such a building permit including without limitation any necessary zoning variances or special permits must be granted and all appeals from the granting of such approvals must be concluded, prior to the issuance of a demolition permit under this section."

And delete in its entirety the paragraph, "Responsibilities of the Owner" and replace it with:

**Responsibilities of the Owner**

Once a Significant Building is determined to be a preferably preserved building, the owner shall be responsible for properly securing the building, if vacant, to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector. Should the owner fail to so secure the building, a subsequent destruction of the building at any time during the six month demolition delay period or until a demolition permit for the building is issued, which destruction could have been prevented by the required security measures, shall be considered a demolition in violation of this By-Law."

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 32: Mr. Hestnes moved:** that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by adding a new ARTICLE II, Section 7A as follows:

**"Section 7A. Interest Charges-Past Due Bills.** The due dates for the payment of all municipal charges and bills shall be 30 days after the charge or bill is issued by the Town, unless otherwise specified by a general law, special act of the Commonwealth or by the Board of Selectmen. Interest accrues at the same rate as charged on tax bills under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 57. The Collector shall have the authority to waive interest totaling up to \$10. The Board of Selectmen shall have the authority to abate any such interest charges, in whole or in part."

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 32 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003, and became effective on February 25, 2004.*

**ARTICLE 33: Mr. Hestnes moved:** that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by adding a new Section 13, as set forth in Article 33 of the Warrant.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 33 was disapproved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

Had it been approved, Section 13 of ARTICLE II of the By-Laws of the Town of Weston would have read:

#### SECTION 13

“13.1 The town collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments, and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the collector, shall provide to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a statement that the person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, has no outstanding debt on record with the collector in excess of \$200 for any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for more than one year and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or charge or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

13.2 The licensing authority may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on any statement furnished to the licensing authority from the collector or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate whose owner has neglected or refused to pay local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or any other municipal charges provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and the collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice. Said statement shall be *prima facie* evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party. The collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the licensing authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the collector that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges payable to the municipality as of the date of issuance of said certificate.

13.3 Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement with the collector, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

13.4 The Board of Selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers, stockholders, if any, or members of his/her immediate family, as defined in M.G.L. Chapter 268A. Section 1 in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.

This Section 13 shall not apply to the following licenses and permits authorized by the following Massachusetts General Laws: open burning, section 13 of chapter 48; bicycle permits, section 11A of chapter 85; sales of articles for charitable purposes, section 33 of chapter 101; children's work-permits, section 69 of chapter 149; clubs, associations dispensing food

or beverage licenses, section 21E of chapter 140; dog licenses, section 137 of chapter 140; fishing, hunting, trapping licenses, section 12 of chapter 131; marriage licenses, section 28 of chapter 207 and theatrical events and public exhibition permits, section 181 of chapter 140."

**ARTICLE 34:** Mr. Hestnes moved: that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by deleting ARTICLE XXX Stormwater Regulations in its entirety and replacing it as set forth in Article 34 of the Warrant.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 34 was approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

The new ARTICLE XXX of the By-laws of the Town is as follows:

#### **"STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

Purpose: The purpose of this By-Law is to reduce pollutants from stormwater to the maximum extent practicable and to minimize flooding or other nuisances or property damage resulting from improper management of stormwater. The goal is to have private development seek to manage stormwater privately, i.e., within the confines of each private property whenever possible. Permits for connection to Town drainage facilities will only be considered when private solutions are not feasible.

Section 1: No person shall uncover, excavate, block access to, or make a connection to any pipe, culvert, catch basin, manhole, or other structure under the control of the Town without first having obtained a permit from the Director of Operations-DPW.

Section 2: No person shall discharge any water from construction sites into any public street or part of the Town drainage system without first having obtained a permit for that purpose from the Director of Operations-DPW. This permit shall be in addition to any other required state or federal permit.

Section 3: No person shall discharge, cause the discharge, or divert a natural flow of surface or ground water in such a manner that it will cause an icing condition on a public way.

Section 4: No person shall directly or indirectly dump, discharge or cause or allow to be discharged into any catch basin, manhole, pipe, retention or detention pond, earth channel, structural control, infiltration chamber, or any other component of the Town's drainage system, any solid waste, construction debris, paint or painting product, antifreeze, hazardous waste, oil, gasoline, grease and all other automotive and petroleum products, solvents and degreasers, drain cleaners, commercial or industrial cleaners, soaps, detergents, ammonia, food and food waste, grass or yard waste, leaves, animal feces, dirt, sand, gravel, or other pollutant.

Section 5: All development and redevelopment projects must comply with the Stormwater Management Standards issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection dated March 1997 and the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Phase II Stormwater Regulations, as each may be from time to time amended.

Section 6: The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to enact regulations to enforce this By-Law.

Section 7: Each day that a violation of this By-Law continues shall constitute a separate violation under ARTICLE V of the Town's General By-Laws."

Answering concerns expressed from the floor, Mr. Hestnes stated that citizens have the right to report neighbors emptying swimming pools to the police and the DPW would enforce the

Stormwater bylaw. When asked if under the new bylaw permits would be needed for sump pumps, Mr. Hestnes confirmed permits would be needed.

**ARTICLE 35: Mr. Hestnes moved:** that the General By-laws of the Town be amended by adding a new ARTICLE XXXI as set forth in Article 35 of the Warrant, and renumbering all remaining Articles.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*The foregoing Article 35 was approved with some language disallowed by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 12, 2003.*

The new ARTICLE XXXI of the By-Laws of the Town of Weston is as follows (Language indicated by ~~strikethrough~~ has been disallowed by the Attorney General):

### ARTICLE XXXI "WATER CONSERVATION"

#### Section 1: Authority

This By-Law is adopted by the Town under its police powers pursuant to the Home Rule Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution, ARTICLE LXXXIX, to protect public health and welfare and its powers pursuant to M.G.L. c.40, §§21 et seq. and implements the Town's authority to regulate water use pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, §69B. This By-Law also implements the Town's authority under M.G.L. c. 40, §41A, conditioned upon a declaration of water supply emergency issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).

#### Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of this By-Law is to protect, preserve and maintain the public health, safety and welfare whenever there is in force a State of Water Supply Conservation or State of Water Supply Emergency, by providing for enforcement of any duly imposed restrictions, requirements, provisions or conditions imposed by the Town, by the Department of Environmental Protection or by the MWRA.

#### Section 3: Definitions

"Agriculture" shall mean farming in all its branches and agriculture, as defined in M.G.L. c. 128, § 1A.

"Outdoor watering" shall mean any residential, municipal, industrial, or commercial watering of decorative lawns, trees or shrubbery.

"Person" shall mean any individual, corporation, trust, partnership, association, agency or authority, or other entity and any officer, employee, group or agent of such persons.

"State of Water Supply Emergency" shall mean a State of Water Supply Emergency declared by the Department of Environmental Protection under M.G.L. c.21G, §15-17 or by the MWRA.

"State of Water Supply Conservation" shall mean a State of Water Supply Conservation declared by the Town pursuant to Section 4 of this By-Law.

"Water Users or Water Consumers" shall mean all persons using water from the Town's public water source irrespective of that person's responsibility for billing purposes for use of the water.

#### Section 4: Declaration of State of Water Supply Conservation

The Town, through its Board of Selectmen authorized to act as such, may declare a State of Water Supply Conservation upon a determination by a majority vote of the Board that the

distribution system is nearing capacity and conservation measures are appropriate to ensure an adequate supply of water to all water consumers. Public notice of a State of Water Conservation shall be given under section 6 of this By-Law before it may be enforced.

#### Section 5: Restricted Water Uses

A declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall include one or more of the following restrictions, conditions, or requirements limiting the use of water as necessary to protect the water supply except as provided in Section 11. The applicable restrictions, conditions or requirements shall be included in the public notice required under Section 6.

- a) Odd/Even Day Outdoor Watering: Outdoor watering on property having an odd numbered address is restricted to odd numbered days. Outdoor watering on property having an even numbered address is restricted to even numbered days.
- b) Outdoor Watering Method Restriction: Outdoor watering is restricted to bucket, can or hand held hose watering with automatic shutoff nozzle.
- c) Outdoor Watering Ban: Outdoor watering is prohibited.
- d) Outdoor Watering Hours: Outdoor watering is permitted only during daily periods of low demand, to be specified in the declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation and public notice thereof.
- e) Swimming Pools: Filling and topping off of swimming pools is prohibited.
- f) Automatic Sprinkler Use: The use of automatic sprinkler systems is prohibited.
- g) Car washing: Car or vehicle washing is prohibited.

#### Section 6: Public Notification of a State of Water Supply Conservation and State of Water Supply Emergency; Notification of DEP

Notification of any provision, including any restriction, requirement or condition imposed by the Town as part of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town, or by such other means reasonably calculated to reach and inform users of water of the State of Water Supply Conservation. Notification of a State of Water Supply Emergency declared by the Department or MWRA shall be provided by furnishing a copy of the Notice to two (2) radio and up to two (2) television stations serving the area served by the public water system as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours after the public water system receives notice of the Department's declaration. Any restriction imposed under section 5 or in the Department declaration of emergency or order shall not be effective until such notification is provided. Notification of the State of Water Supply Conservation shall also be provided to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and MWRA at the same time that notification is given.

#### Section 7: Termination of State of Water Supply Conservation; Notice

A State of Water Supply Conservation may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen upon a determination that the water supply shortage no longer exists. Public notification of the termination of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be given in the same manner as is required for notice of the Town's declaration of its State of Water Supply Conservation.

#### Section 8: State of Water Supply Emergency; Compliance with DEP or MWRA Orders

Upon notification to the public that a declaration of a State of Water Supply Emergency has been issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or MWRA, no person shall violate any provision, restriction, requirement, or condition of any order approved or issued by the Department for the purpose of bringing about an end to the State of Water Supply Emergency. The notice prescribed by this section shall be in writing and shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation within the town where it is to be effective. Such

notice shall summarize the provisions of the Declaration of Water Supply Emergency and the requirements and conditions thereof. Notice as prescribed by this section shall be sufficient for enforcement of the requirements of such Declaration on and after the date following newspaper publication.

**Section 9: Penalties**

The Town, through its Public Works Director, Water Superintendent, building inspector or local police may enforce this By-Law. Any person violating this By-Law shall be liable to the Town in the amount of \$50.00 for the first violation and \$ 100.00 for each subsequent violation. Fines shall be recovered by indictment, by complaint before the District Court, or by non-criminal disposition in accordance with section 21D of chapter 40 of the general laws.

**Section 10: Severability**

The invalidity of any portion or provision of this By-Law shall not invalidate any other portion or provision thereof.

**Section 11: Exemptions**

The water use restrictions adopted under this By-Law shall not apply to the specific uses outlined below provided the user meets any applicable eligibility criteria.

- a) Commercial agriculture;
- b) Water to sustain animal life;
- c) Swimming pools used as a primary means of exercise, therapy or Rehabilitation located at a medical or rehabilitation facility;
- d) Commercial car or vehicle washing facilities.

Requests for exemptions shall be made in writing to the Department of Public Works."

**A Motion to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting was adopted at 10:35 p.m.**

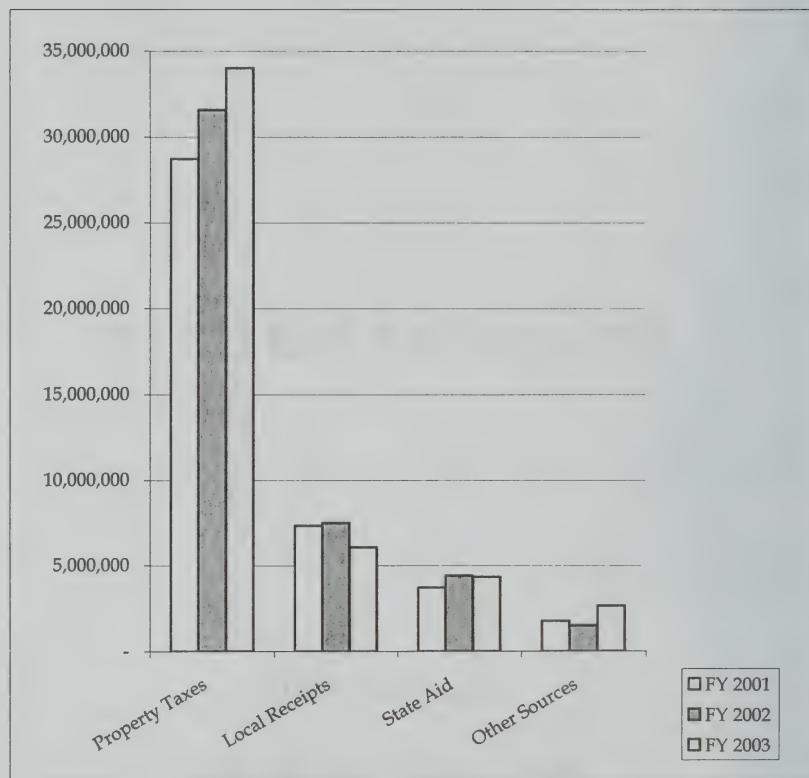


# **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

*Fiscal Year 2003*

*July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003*

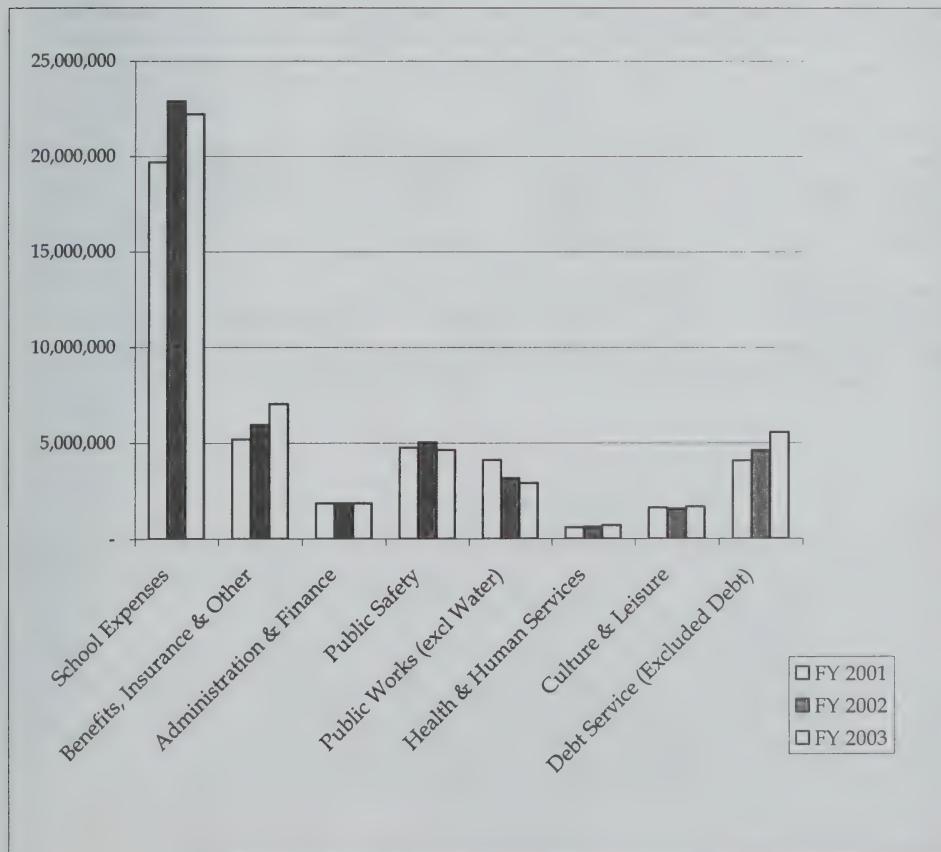
## SOURCES OF REVENUE FISCAL YEARS 2001 - 2003



	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Property Taxes	28,716,531	31,579,678	34,016,940
Local Receipts	7,336,702	7,505,272	6,073,938
State Aid	3,724,730	4,420,376	4,338,573
Other Sources	1,775,000	1,511,535	2,665,696
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 41,552,963</b>	<b>\$ 45,016,861</b>	<b>\$ 47,095,147</b>

## DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEARS 2001 - 2003

	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
School Expenses	19,681,142	22,891,714	22,207,217
Benefits, Insurance & Other	5,193,184	5,935,049	7,027,988
Administration & Finance	1,855,710	1,852,533	1,860,554
Public Safety	4,762,706	5,034,529	4,634,195
Public Works (excl Water)	4,125,335	3,174,628	2,911,742
Health & Human Services	590,687	628,057	709,411
Culture & Leisure	1,631,804	1,575,243	1,687,527
Debt Service (Excluded Debt)	4,083,299	4,625,636	5,556,443
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 41,923,867</b>	<b>\$ 45,717,389</b>	<b>\$ 46,595,077</b>



## REPORT OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR

The Treasurer/Collector's office is a section of the Finance Department. It is staffed by three full time employees in addition to the Treasurer/Collector. Senior Service members assist the office in busy times. The office is responsible for tax and assessment billings and collections, the issuing of transfer station decals and cash management.

Tax related duties and responsibilities focus on billing and collecting of real estate, personal property, motor vehicle excise and water usage fees. More than 25,000 tax and 8,000 water bills were mailed out resulting in over \$43 million dollars in revenues. A new Water Enterprise Fund was established this year, taking the water revenues out of the general fund. The Community Preservation Fund generated over \$1,201,439 in revenue from local taxes and \$1,051,629 in 2003 State revenue to the town. Other tax related responsibilities include the processing of over 1,200 municipal lien certificates, tax refunds and the collection of delinquent taxes through tax takings and deputy collector services.

In addition to its tax related duties and responsibilities, the office is also responsible for receiving moneys from the Town's many departments, processing of payments for Town expenditures, maintaining and reconciling more than 49 bank and investment accounts, investing Town funds, borrowing short and long term funds, and distributing payroll checks to and related taxes and benefits for more than 650 Town and School employees. Over 2,000 transfer station decals were issued this year.

Bonds issued during the year were:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
February 1, 2003	\$ 2,190,000.00	5 years	2.25 - 2.507%
June 1, 2003	\$ 5,550,000.00	15 years	2.20 - 3.69%
June 1, 2003	\$ 3,040,000.00	10 years	1.25 - 3.60%

Short-term notes were issued as follows:

\$ 1,850,000.00 @ 2.00%	\$ 615,000.00 @ 1.94%	\$ 30,214,000.00 @ 3.00%
\$ 200,000.00 @ 2.39%	\$ 33,040,000.00 @ 1.10%	\$ 2,990,000.00 @ 2.00%

## TREASURER'S CASH REPORT

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cash Balance- June 30, 2002</b>		<b>\$ 37,610,368</b>
Property Tax	39,610,092	
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	2,194,470	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	13,000	
Municipal Lien Certificates	32,550	
Interest and Charges	792,938	
Departmental Fees	1,023,770	
Departmental Rents and Receivables	734,543	
Departmental Miscella- neous Revenue	95,596	
Licenses	14,049	
Permits	736,483	
State Revenue and Reimbursements	3,428,869	
Court Fines and Other Fines	127,156	
Miscellaneous Revenue	16,211	
Other Financing Sources	176,049	
Due to Other Agencies	732,590	
Highway- Chapter 90	250,077	
School Lunch Receipts- Revolving	806,495	

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Total</b>
Grants- Federal & State	1,296,722	
School Gifts and Revolving Accounts	327,968	
Receipts Reserved for Appropriation	36,410	
Town Grants- State	206,128	
Mass Water Resources Grants	78,096	
Town Other Grants	89,476	
Town Gifts and Revolving Accounts	144,027	
Insurance Recovery	14,427	
Recreation Revolving Funds	459,133	
Community Preservation Fund	5,144,923	
Water Enterprise Fund	1,909,468	
Capital Projects	43,224,000	
MWRA Cat Rock Tank	407	
Trust Funds Income	759,264	
Change in Assets	\$ 4,945,210	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$ 109,420,599</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		<b>\$ 16,077,904</b>
<b>Cash Balance - June 30, 2003</b>		<b>\$ 30,953,064</b>

Please Note: In 2003, Non-Cash Equivalent Investments were added to the Cash Balance tracked by the Treasurer/Collector's office. The Change in Assets amount partly reflects these investments.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

### *Fiscal 2004 Valuation and Tax Rate*

- The 129 arm's length property sales in calendar year 2002. These sales formed the basis for the fiscal year 2004 assessments for Weston's approximately 3,500 residential parcels.
- The FY 2004 assessments were finalized by the Board on November 12, 2003.
- The total assessed value of all taxable property in Weston was \$4,304,171,200. This was an increase of \$405,315,700 or 10.4% over the FY 2003 total assessed value of \$3,898,855,500.
- For FY 2004, new growth, which is comprised of new construction, renovations and other improvements, of \$191,601,700 was reported. Excluding new growth, the total assessed value increased by 5.5%.

- The tax rate for FY 2004 (which began on July 1, 2003) was set on December 8, 2003 at \$9.67 per \$1,000 of assessed value, down forty-eight cents from the \$10.15 rate in the previous fiscal year.

#### ***Policies and Procedures***

- The role of the Board of Assessors is to establish the full fair market value of all properties in Town, using a mass appraisal methodology. The Board's policies and procedures are overseen by the state's Department of Revenue.
- Weston's Board of Assessors revalues every property in town each year to reflect the full estimated fair market value, in compliance with the requirements of the Department of Revenue.
- On October 10, 2003 the Board of Assessors mailed to all residential property owners Impact Notices with the proposed new valuation of their property. The notice invited property owners with questions or concerns to attend one of the scheduled public information sessions held by the Board.
- The informational meetings for taxpayers were held at Town Hall on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Board and Principal Assessor Josephson explained how the assessments were derived and answered questions from the audience. Approximately 60 residents attended the initial session and about 40 attended the second session.
- The Board encouraged property owners to meet with the staff or Board members to discuss, informally, issues and concerns about their property valuations prior to the Board's finalization of the FY 2004 assessments. Over 80 meetings were held with individual property owners to discuss specific concerns about valuations.
- The Board continued the process of re-inspecting all property in town by extending the engagement of an independent appraisal firm, David L. Velluti and Associates. Approximately 60% of the properties in town have been inspected over the last two years. The Board projects the inspection process to be completed by June 30, 2005.
- FY 2004 assessment information was added to the Town's website – [www.weston.org](http://www.weston.org). Within the "Financial Information" section, there is now a listing, by street address, of all taxable properties in Town showing lot size, house size, year built, land assessment, building assessment and the total FY 2004 assessment.

#### ***Changes to the Board of Assessors***

- At the November 2002 Special Town Meeting, Weston approved a warrant article submitted by citizens' petition that expanded the Board of Assessors from 3 to 5 members.
- In May 2003, 4 new members were elected to the Board of Assessors:
  - ~ Gary C. Koger and Phyllis R. Kominz ran unopposed and were elected to three year terms;
  - ~ In a contested race, Alan T. Orth was elected to a two year term; and
  - ~ Michael H. Harrity, who also ran unopposed, was elected to a one year term.
- At the May 27, 2003 meeting of the Board of Assessors, Gary Koger was elected Chairman.
- On June 10, 2003, Dr. Edward C. Michaud resigned from the Board of Assessors.
- At a joint meeting of the Board of Assessors and the Board of Selectmen on September 2, 2003, the boards voted unanimously to appoint to the Board of Assessors Susan L. Kannenberg, who had opposed Alan Orth in the May election for a two year term.

The Board thanks its Town Hall staff of Korrianne Bardsley, Glen Saindon, and Eric Josephson for their outstanding assistance to the Board in the performance of its duties.

## TABLE OF AGGREGATES

Tallies are based upon the Property Type Classification Codes established by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Dwelling Houses		3343
Multiple Dwelling Properties		75
Condominiums		48
Non-Exempt Vacant Parcels		177
Accessory Land with Improvements		11
Commercial properties		50
Industrial Properties		2
Parcels Classified under Ch. 61	(Forest Management)	4
Parcels Classified under Ch. 61A	(Agricultural/Horticultural)	19
Parcels Classified under Ch. 61B	(Recreational Use)	10
Exempt Parcels		320

**PROPERTY EXEMPTED UNDER M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, SECTION 5, CLAUSE 3**

Trustees of Boston College (Weston Observatory)	2,216,600
Cambridge School, Inc.	6,522,700
Campion Residence & Renewal Center	29,755,200
Margaret Gifford School	2,106,000
Golden Ball Tavern Trust	2,286,100
Her Majesty The Queen	2,143,100
Meadowbrook School of Weston	6,890,300
President & Fellows of Harvard University	7,339,300
Red Barn Nursery School	691,400
Regis College	36,182,800
Rivers Country Day School	13,931,400
Pope John XXIII Nat'l Seminary	6,131,500
Weston College	2,288,600
Wellesley Conservation Council	638,700
Weston Scouts, Inc.	573,600
Weston Community Housing	5,714,000
Weston Forest & Trail Assoc., Inc.	32,613,800
Weston Wing, Inc.	530,100
Weston Open Space Assoc. Inc	285,100

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

The three elected Commissioners of Trust Funds are responsible for the investment of securities held in the Town's Trust Funds which are listed below. Any new trust funds that are created also become the responsibility of the Commissioners.

The principal values of the ten funds totaled \$9,688,081 at the end of 2003, compared to \$8,413,947 in nine funds at the end of 2002. There was a total of \$1,020,083 of unexpended income in the ten funds at the year end 2003. During the year the Commissioners became responsible for the Elizabeth Paine Memorial Library Fund which had a year end market value of \$708,399. There was a total of \$1,020,083 of unexpended income in the ten funds at year-end 2003.

The stock market's performance as measured by the S & P 500 enjoyed a significant change of fortune from the prior three years, recording a 26.4% increase. While welcome, increases of this magnitude should not be counted on going forward. The growth in earnings realized by the companies held in the portfolios will have a significant bearing in equity performance.

The Commissioners have continued the investment philosophy of prior years: to keep the stock portion of the various trust fund portfolios fully invested in the common shares of outstanding companies which show a capacity for sustained earnings growth. The Commissioners expect that these companies as a group should be able to maintain their superior growth characteristics in the year to come and beyond.

	Principal Values as of December 31, 2003	
	Book Value	Market Value
Consolidated Trust Funds	\$ 1,449,099	\$ 2,601,574
Well Litigation Settlement Trust Fund	1,564,467	3,024,950
Weston Public Schools Fund	117,932	161,963
Josiah Smith Tavern Trust Fund	961,736	1,873,250
Noyes Library Trust Fund	148,829	242,316
Ben Sandalls Memorial Fund	76,702	85,009
Joseph Mathias Naughton Scholarship Fund	16,064	15,210
Rosamond Sears Library Fund	441,113	616,006
Gladwell Library Fund	315,867	392,317
Elizabeth Paine Library Fund	674,324	739,661
Ella McNutt Morse Scholarship Fund	138,886	143,002

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

**STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2003**

July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003

Accounts indicated by + are continuing appropriations, the balances of which shall be carried forward to the next year. In cases where an amount is carried forward without this designation, the appropriation has been obligated for the payment of liabilities incurred in FY2003.

TITLE OF APPROPRIATIONS OR FUNDS	APPROPRIATIONS FY2003 & BALANCES July-1-2002	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND/OR TRANSFER	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND	EXPENDED DURING FY2003	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO FY2004	TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE FY2003
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>						
Unclassified						
Insurance and Fringe Benefits						
Insurance, Workers Compensation	175,000.00	25,000.00		115,533.00		59,467.00
Unemployment Compensation	25,000.00	169,843.00	30,000.00	42,163.68		7,836.32
Insurance-Group Health/Life, Medicare	4,751,157.00			4,948,714.10		2,285.90
Contributory Retirement - Middlesex	1,428,301.00			1,428,001.00		-
Insurance - Property & Liability	276,750.00			246,795.00		29,985.00
Uninsured Losses+	5,000.00			1,270.00		-
subtotal	6,860,908.00	194,843.00	30,000.00	6,782,476.78	3,730.00	99,544.22
Compensated Absence Fund+						
Street Lighting	53,250.00			29,000.58	24,249.42	-
Reserve Fund	106,000.00			88,896.01	47.50	16,628.99
Debt Service (non-excluded)	350,000.00		(239,258.00)			110,742.00
Total Unclassified	148,754.00			127,594.83		21,159.17
subtotal	7,318,912.00	194,843.00	(289,258.00)	7,027,988.20	28,454.42	248,074.38
General Government						
Selection/Town Manager						
Salaries	313,928.00	2,999.00		277,872.41	420.33	38,634.26
Expenses	55,600.00	4,000.00		53,504.84	1,000.44	5,094.72
Consulting & Professional Service +	25,000.00					-
Balance July 1	135,676.34			58,738.71	101,937.63	-
subtotal	530,204.34	6,999.00	-	390,115.96	103,358.40	43,728.98
Salary Adjustments-Merit	33,312.00	(12,336.33)			20,975.67	-
Selection-Continuing Balance Accounts:						
Housing Needs Committee +	10,779.09					10,779.09
Study Vehicular & Pedestrian Traffic +	1,785.57					-
Recycling & Energy Conservation +	7,307.76					7,307.76
Church Street Parking+	13,917.10					-
Playing Fields Design+	24,412.00					24,412.00
Town Clerk & Registrars of Voters						
Salary-Elected Official	150.00				150.00	-
Salaries	113,969.00			4,000.00	117,937.95	31.05
Expenses	11,620.00			4,000.00	10,776.13	843.87
subtotal	125,739.00			128,864.08	-	874.92

TITLE OF APPROPRIATIONS OR FUNDS	APPROPRIATIONS FY2003 & BALANCES July 1-2002 141,300.00	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND/OR TRANSFER	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND	EXPENDED DURING FY2003	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO FY2004	TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE FY2003
						11,898.03
Information Systems						
Salaries	72,891.00			72,991.00	12,050.39	9,667.37
Expenses	89,854.00			68,236.24		
Computer Hardware Maintenance+	74,000.00					
Balance July 1	9,002.87			48,417.27	34,585.60	
	subtotal	245,947.87		189,644.51	46,635.99	9,667.37
Facilities Maintenance						
Salaries	59,145.00	(6,000.00)		39,901.28	259.26	12,984.46
Expenses	62,677.00	13,000.00		80,348.02	179.25	1,149.73
Town Hall - Equipment +	5,000.00					
Balance July 1	6,354.25			874.17	10,480.08	
Test & Replace Storage Tanks +	12,000.00				12,000.00	
Repair/Maintenance of Town Buildings+ Repair/Maintenance of Town Hall+ Facilities Maintenance+	5,451.97			1,267.12	4,184.85	
		2,789.61			2,789.61	
		100,000.00				
		80,923.19				
	subtotal	334,341.02	7,000.00	6,000.00	63,238.72	117,684.47
Weston War Memorial Ed. Fund Comm.						
Memorial Day	1,200.00					
		784.00				
	subtotal	1,471,529.75	1,662.67	10,000.00	1,0223,575.38	336,250.25
Total General Government						123,366.79
Finance						
Finance Committee	2,320.00				170.00	2,150.00
Finance						
Salaries-Elected Officials	300.00			100.00		
Salaries	456,300.00	4,425.00		435,638.65	13.69	186.31
Expenses	128,025.00			98,677.52	19,186.21	25,086.35
	subtotal	584,625.00	4,425.00	5,500.00	534,416.17	15,661.27
		586,645.00	4,425.00	5,500.00	534,586.17	40,933.93
Total Finance						43,083.93
Planning & Land Use						
Clerks of Committees	87,045.00	1,135.33		88,180.33		
Board of Appeals	4,905.00			2,441.58		
Planning Board						
Salaries	65,934.00	473.00		59,437.26		
Expenses	37,000.00			16,386.87	20,613.00	6,969.74
	subtotal	102,934.00	473.00	-	75,824.13	20,613.00
						0.13
Conservation Commission						
Conservation Fund+	89,350.00			89,290.73	50.00	9.27
Historical Commission	923.48			923.48		
Crescent Street Historic District Commission	4,000.00			1,835.02	2,000.00	164.98
		100.00			100.00	100.00
	subtotal	289,257.48	1,668.33	-	258,495.27	22,663.00
Total Planning & Land Use						9,707.54



TITLE OF APPROPRIATIONS OR FUNDS	APPROPRIATIONS FY2003 & BALANCES July 1-2002	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND/OR TRANSFER	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND	EXPENDED DURING FY2003	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO FY2004	TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE FY2003
Public Works						
Administration						
Salaries	1,377,158.00	30,000.00	40,000.00	1,442,854.37	3,489.25	814.38
Expenses	310,768.00			283,849.05	5,683.83	41,235.12
Equipment +						
Balance July 1	50,463.76			1,312.00	49,151.76	-
GIS Needs Assessment+	25,000.00			17,200.00	7,800.00	-
Highway Division						
Expenses	105,300.00			105,300.00		
Snow and Ice Control	117,300.00	210,000.00	93,000.00	419,761.02		538.98
Guard Rail Rehab Program+	5,000.00					
Balance July 1	44,972.50			21,729.00		28,243.50
Const. & Reconstruct Public Ways +	150,000.00					
Balance July 1	20,197.91			19,537.10		150,660.81
Const. Sidewalks, Paths & Footways +	50,000.00					-
Balance July 1	6,784.89			6,634.25		50,150.64
Lexington Street Speed Humps+	12,935.00					12,935.00
North/Church Intersection+	25,000.00			21,500.79		3,489.21
Highway Land Takings +	2,436.03					2,436.03
Center Street Planting +	960.98					960.98
Storm Water Management						
Recycling & Solid Waste Disposal	540,887.31	210,000.00	93,000.00	594,462.16	248,866.17	538.98
Expenses	79,200.00			65,349.95	68,750.00	6,975.05
Monitoring Ground Water - Landfill +						
Balance July 1	380,300.00			361,906.51		7,785.85
Standpipes - Maint. and Repair +	15,000.00					10,607.64
Professional & Consulting Services +						
Large Meter Replacement+	5,077.85					
Balance July 1	400,377.85			15,000.00	336,158.00	10,826.36
Water - Continuing Balance Accounts						
Standpipes - Maint. and Repair +	1,493.79			1,493.79		-
Professional & Consulting Services +	500.00					
Large Meter Replacement+	5,318.08					
Parks and Cemeteries						
Expenses						
Equipment +	23,550.00			22,049.65	420.00	1,080.35
Stone Wall Repairs +	2,534.00			2,534.00		-
Improvements/Development of Cemetery Land +	4,267.94				4,287.94	-
Cemetery Tree Maintenance +	66,244.83			10,719.99	55,524.84	-
Balance July 1	15,000.00					
Park Tree Maintenance +	6,287.75			12,276.00	8,991.75	-
Cemetery Water Line Rehab +	20,163.22			1,800.00	18,363.22	43,748.77
Reconstruct Roadway/Linwood +	43,748.77					-
Balance July 1	5,000.00					
Linwood Cemetery Entrance +	26,069.50				31,069.50	-
Cemetery Signage +	10,000.00				10,000.00	-
Balance July 1	5,000.00				5,000.00	-
Subtotal	227,846.01				49,379.64	133,637.25
						44,829.12

TITLE OF APPROPRIATIONS OR FUNDS						
APPROPRIATIONS FY2003 & BALANCES July-1-2002		SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND/OR TRANSFER	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND	EXPENDED DURING FY2003	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO FY2004	TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE FY2003
Tree Warden						
Salaries	6,086.00			6,086.00		2,988.32
Expenses	53,695.00			50,706.68		-
<b>Total Public Works</b>	<b>59,781.00</b>	<b>240,000.00</b>	<b>148,000.00</b>	<b>56,792.68</b>	<b>477,024.05</b>	<b>107,988.61</b>
Health & Human Services						
Board of Health	141,817.00	(14,000.00)		125,297.46		2,519.54
Salaries	13,510.00	14,000.00		27,448.43		16.57
Expenses	31,722.00			26,400.00		528.00
Mental Health Services	187,049.00			178,145.89		-
Mosquito Control, E. Middlesex Project	28,997.00			28,997.00		3,064.11
Brook School Apartments	86,145.00		1,700.00	87,816.81		-
Salaries	145,947.00		9,000.00	152,425.72		2,344.44
Expenses	21,178.23			2,178.23		176.84
Repairs & Replace Septic System + Repairs & Replacements +	65,000.00					-
Balance July 1	106,984.19			57,265.80	114,628.39	-
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>406,164.42</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,700.00</b>	<b>289,686.56</b>	<b>116,972.83</b>	<b>205.03</b>
Council on Aging						
Salaries	110,391.00		15,100.00	125,440.70		50.30
Expenses	19,400.00			19,395.23		4.77
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>129,791.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,100.00</b>	<b>144,835.93</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55.07</b>
Youth Counseling Services						
Salaries	46,625.00			46,625.00		-
Expenses	1,250.00			989.98		-
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>47,875.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,624.98</b>	<b>85.70</b>	<b>164.32</b>
Alcohol & Drug Advisory Committee						
2,000.00				1,943.35		56.65
Veteran's Benefits	1,000.00			20.00		980.00
<b>Total Health &amp; Human Services</b>	<b>802,876.42</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,800.00</b>	<b>702,253.71</b>	<b>121,897.53</b>	<b>4,525.18</b>
Cultural & Leisure Services						
Libraries	649,780.00		626.00	650,406.00		-
Salaries	137,940.00			136,985.61		1,889.03
Expenses	74,964.00			74,197.41		383.79
Library Materials	32,805.00					-
Minuteman Library Network + Balance July 1	896,567.10		626.00	890,793.94		2,272.82
				4,258.00		8,384.34
						-

TITLE OF APPROPRIATIONS OR FUNDS	APPROPRIATIONS FY2003 & BALANCES July-1-2002	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND/OR TRANSFER	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND	EXPENDED DURING FY2003	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO FY2004	TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE FY2003
Recreation						
Salaries	545,182.00	37,029.00		542,647.54	3,600.00	35,963.46
Expenses	178,975.00	10,000.00		185,086.03	2,886.42	1,002.55
Community Center	86,400.00			56,986.54	86.70	29,326.76
Memorial Pool Improvements+	8,000.00			4,606.60	3,393.40	
Subtotal	819,557.00	47,029.00		789,326.71	9,966.52	66,292.77
Total Cultural & Leisure Services	1,715,124.10	47,655.00		1,680,120.65	18,350.86	68,565.59
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>44,486,154.19</b>	<b>280,843.00</b>		<b>41,854,839.81</b>	<b>2,058,619.83</b>	<b>853,737.55</b>
<b>EXCLUDED DEBT</b>						
Interest on Debt						
Interest on Permanent Debt	2,302,955.00			2,302,955.00		
Bond Anticipation Notes	1,011,980.91			1,011,980.91		
Total Interest on Debt	3,314,935.91				3,314,935.91	
Maturing Debt						
Principal Payments on Permanent Debt	3,399,963.00			3,399,963.00		
Total of Maturing Debt	3,399,963.00			3,399,963.00		
<b>TOTAL EXCLUDED DEBT</b>	<b>6,714,896.91</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>6,714,896.91</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>INTERFUND TRANSFERS</b>						
Transfer to Capital Fund						
Transfer to Water Enterprise Fund						
<b>TOTAL INTERFUND TRANSFERS</b>	<b>35,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>35,000.00</b>	<b>17,151.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>STATE ASSESSMENT</b>						
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>51,253,404.10</b>	<b>280,843.00</b>		<b>48,857,457.72</b>	<b>2,058,619.83</b>	<b>853,737.55</b>
<b>WATER ENTERPRISE FUND</b>						
Salaries	206,000.00			205,501.44		498.56
Expenses	153,098.00			126,485.08	598.27	29,234.65
MWRA Assessment/Water Purchases	973,000.00			961,110.68		31,040.32
Debt Service (non-exempt)	38,254.00			41,695.87		9,291.13
Large Meter Replacement	7,500.00			5,152.70		2,347.30
Transfer to General Fund	254,088.00			254,088.00		
<b>TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND</b>	<b>1,633,840.00</b>	<b>33,084.00</b>		<b>1,584,013.77</b>	<b>598.27</b>	<b>72,411.96</b>

**PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST DUE ON OUTSTANDING AND AUTHORIZED DEBT**

Fiscal Years 2004 - 2008

Issue Date	Total Principal and Interest Due				
	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
<b>EXEMPT FROM PROPOSITION 2 1/2:</b>					
No. 1-Water Mains \$750,000	34,950	32,475	-	-	5,674
No. 4-Water Mains Refunding \$42,000	6,334	6,159	5,977	3,827	50,503
No. 5-Water Mains Refunding \$382,000	62,538	56,823	55,119	55,319	41,782
No. 6-Water Mains Refunding \$354,000	51,397	49,015	48,582	43,157	30,841
No. 7-Water Mains Refunding \$252,000	41,610	40,420	38,206	35,987	10,245
No. 8-Water Mains \$165,000	21,482	20,681	20,839	19,946	39,946
No. 9-Water Mains Refunding \$580,000	81,194	37,062	43,344	43,191	41,640
No. 10-Water Mains \$340,000	31,100	34,665	33,615	32,615	30,615
No. 11-Water Mains \$125,000	31,100	14,929	14,404	13,904	12,904
No. 12-Water Mains \$340,000	31,100	34,665	33,615	32,615	30,615
No. 13-Water Mains \$250,000 5/7/01	4/15/02	24,380	23,838	22,956	21,255
Water Equipment 5/10/99	4/15/02	12,970	12,583	12,195	11,795
<b>Subtotal - Exempt Water Debt</b>		376,980	366,968	325,537	310,079
Refuse Transfer Facility	7/1/93	58,478	56,698	54,878	52,998
Refuse Transfer Facility Refunding	8/1/94	51,288	59,288	58,996	56,923
Landfill Closure	7/1/93	121,769	117,275	112,679	107,932
<b>Subtotal - Exempt Transfer Station Debt</b>		231,535	233,261	226,553	217,853
School Equipment-Mower (5/99)	31/100	15,788	-	-	-
Field School Renovations Refunding	8/1/94	64,096	74,815	74,529	71,860
Field School Renovations Redunding	8/1/95	59,915	64,346	62,727	60,022
High School Renovations 5/13/96	3/1/00	1,349,358	1,312,083	1,276,583	1,241,083
High School Arch & Engineering	3/1/00	82,943	80,580	78,330	76,080
High School Equipment (1/99)	3/1/00	37,234	36,184	35,184	33,184
High School Renovations 1/6/99	3/1/00	54,125	52,550	51,050	49,550
Case House School Roof Renovation	3/1/00	15,689	15,164	14,664	14,164
Middle School 12/9/96; 5/12/97; 5/11/98	1/1/01	946,399	923,404	900,409	877,414
Middle School 12/9/96; 5/12/97; 5/11/98	1/1/01	377,960	368,780	359,600	350,420
Country/Woodland Sch Renov \$5,157,000	6/1/03	497,169	490,249	483,329	475,544
School Track Resurfacing	2/1/03	34,598	32,960	32,225	31,475
School Bus Replacement	2/1/03	42,560	39,683	38,185	37,925
Land Acquisition-Case Estates	3/1/03	203,150	192,100	181,050	192,100

Issue	Date	Total Principal and Interest Due			
		FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Computer Hardware	3/1/00	23,050	22,000	21,000	-
Computer Hardware	4/15/02	4,511	3,356	3,240	3,120
Computer Software	4/15/02	12,258	7,831	7,560	7,280
Brook School Housing-Sewage Refunding	5/15/01	6,035	5,860	5,679	5,491
Fire Department-Equipment (Ambulance)	3/1/00	26,313	-	-	5,300
New Library Building	7/1/93	92,716	89,779	85,799	82,744
New Library Building Refunding	8/1/94	142,414	165,451	165,338	158,864
New Library Building	8/1/95	23,967	25,735	25,090	24,009
Athletic Facilities-Memorial Pool Reconstr	8/1/94	49,529	51,465	50,485	49,128
Community Center (COA) Plans & Specs	3/1/00	10,525	-	-	47,623
Community Center (COA) 1/16/99	1/1/01	230,630	224,780	218,930	213,080
Sewage Treatment 5/99 \$319,000	6/1/03	31,314	30,874	30,434	29,939
Sewage Treatment Fac Comm Ctr 1/6/99 \$24,000	6/1/03	2,668	2,628	2,588	2,543
Sewage Treatment Fac Comm Ctr 1/6/99 \$280,000	1/1/01	25,932	25,302	24,672	24,042
Sewage Treatment (Town Hall) 1/26/99	1/1/01	1,852	1,807	1,762	1,717
Town Hall & Library Planning 5/10/99	3/1/00	10,525	-	-	1,672
Town Hall & Library Planning 12/6/99	1/1/01	92,650	88,825	-	-
Town Hall Construction 11/14/00	4/15/02	545,106	531,133	518,236	505,996
Town Hall Sewer 5/8/00	4/15/02	19,164	18,738	18,311	17,871
Town Hall Sewer 1/6/99	2/1/03	7,840	7,683	7,525	7,350
Church St Land Acquisition 5/12/97	4/15/02	47,475	46,313	45,150	43,950
Case Complex Roads/Parking \$10,000	2/1/03	5,225	5,113	-	42,750
Fire Pumper Truck, 5/7/01	4/15/02	68,856	61,531	59,400	57,200
DPW Building Repairs-EPA Compliance	2/1/03	23,033	17,560	17,200	16,800
DPW Equipment 5/13/02	2/1/03	37,085	34,320	33,600	32,800
DPW Equipment 5/7/01	4/15/02	36,799	34,520	33,280	-
Surface Drains 5/13/02 #4	2/1/03	3,360	3,293	3,225	3,150
Surface Drains 5/7/01 #3	4/15/02	19,164	18,738	18,311	17,871
Surface Drains 5/8/00 #2	4/15/02	19,256	18,830	18,404	17,964
Surface Drains 5/10/99 #1	1/1/01	16,086	15,636	15,186	14,736
<b>Subtotal - Exempt General &amp; School</b>		<b>5,416,319</b>	<b>5,241,936</b>	<b>5,018,934</b>	<b>4,657,365</b>
					<b>4,399,664</b>

	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>Total Principal and Interest Due</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>
<b>SBA Reimbursement</b>							
Field School		(76,631)	(76,631)	(76,631)	(76,631)	(76,631)	(76,631)
High School		(618,884)	(618,884)	(618,884)	(618,884)	(618,884)	(618,884)
Middle School		(505,807)	(505,807)	(505,807)	(505,807)	(505,807)	(505,807)
<b>Subtotal - SBA Reimbursement</b>		(1,201,321)	(1,201,321)	(1,201,321)	(1,201,321)	(1,201,321)	(1,201,321)
<b>TOTAL EXEMPT DEBT</b>		4,823,511	4,640,844	4,369,703	3,983,976	3,693,837	
<b>WATER ENTERPRISE FUND DEBT</b>							
Cat Rock Hill Water Tank Rehab \$141,270	5/20/99	28,254	-	-	-	-	-
Church St/Summer St Water Equip \$127,330	5/30/02	12,733	12,733	12,733	12,733	12,733	12,733
Water (DPW) Vehicle Replacement \$40,000 TBI	2/1/03	10,950	10,725	10,500	10,250	-	-
Water Equip.-Church/Summer St. \$75,000 TBI	2/10/03	16,800	16,463	16,125	15,750	15,375	15,375
<b>TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND DEBT</b>		68,737	39,921	39,358	38,733	38,733	38,733
<b>COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND DEBT</b>							
Sunday Woods Land \$1,500,000	2/1/03	336,000	329,250	322,500	315,000	307,500	
<b>NOT EXEMPT FROM PROPOSITION 2 1/2:</b>							
Refuse Transfer Facility	8/1/94	19,601	22,660	22,546	21,754	20,888	
Elderly Housing (Brook School) Planning	4/15/02	5,588	5,394	5,200	-	-	-
DPW Construction 5/7/01	4/15/02	40,674	39,783	38,891	37,971	37,051	
DPW Architectural Svcs 3/12/01	4/15/02	4,430	4,275	3,120	-	-	-
DPW Architectural Services 5/8/00	4/15/02	15,208	12,665	5,200	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL NON EXEMPT DEBT</b>		85,500	84,776	74,957	59,725	57,939	
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>		<b>5,313,748</b>	<b>5,094,791</b>	<b>4,806,518</b>	<b>4,397,435</b>	<b>4,087,385</b>	

AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED DEBT

DATE AUTHORIZED	PURPOSE	AMOUNT AUTHORIZED	UNISSUED 6/30/02	PAYOUTS FY2003	ISSUED FY2003	UNISSUED 6/30/03
5/11/1974	Conservation (ART 13; 1/99)	1,300,000	265,000		265,000	
11/20/1995	Computer Software	265,000	30,000		30,000	
11/20/1995	Computer Hardware	245,000	21,000		21,000	
5/12/1997	Purchase Church St. Land	1,700,000	385,000	55,000	330,000	
10/20/1997	Engineering - Sewerage	50,000	30,000		30,000	
11/6/1999	Sewage Treatment (ART 3)	366,000	86,000		59,000	27,000
5/10/1999	Sewage Facility (ART 12)	389,000	389,000		319,000	70,000
12/6/1999	Arch. Serv. Elem. Schs. (ART 4)	1,800,000	1,800,000		1,800,000	
11/14/2000	Elem. Sch. Arch. Serv. (ART 5)	490,000	490,000		490,000	
11/14/2000	Affordable Housing (ART 7)	120,000	120,000		120,000	
3/12/2001	Elem. Sch. Renov. (ART 1)	29,871,000	29,871,000		5,157,000	24,714,000
3/12/2001	Sew. Disp. Town Bldg. (ART 2)	250,000	250,000			250,000
6/18/2001	Elem. Sch. Renov. (ART 1)	5,130,000	5,130,000			5,130,000
5/13/2002	CPA Open Space (ART 6)	1,500,000	1,500,000		1,500,000	-
5/15/2002	Retaining Wall Rehab (ART 20)	100,000	100,000		100,000	
5/15/2002	Surface Drains (ART 21)	300,000	300,000		15,000	285,000
5/15/2002	DPW Equip.-Vehicles (ART 22)	170,000	170,000		170,000	-
5/15/2002	Case Complex Roadways (ART 23)	150,000	150,000		10,000	140,000
5/15/2002	Roadways Rehab. (ART 24)	100,000	100,000		100,000	
5/15/2002	DPW Bldg. Repairs (ART 25)	85,000	85,000		85,000	-
5/15/2002	Water Sys. Equip. w/ MWRA (ART 26)	225,000	97,670		75,000	22,670
5/15/2002	Water Sys. Equip. (ART 27) Newton St.	135,000				135,000
5/15/2002	Brook Sch. Apt. Arch. Serv. (ART 28)	325,000				325,000
5/15/2002	High School Track Resurface (ART 30)	150,000				150,000
5/15/2002	School Equip./Buses (ART 31)	150,000				150,000
11/25/2002	Brook Sch. Apt. Addition (ART 11)	5,650,000				5,650,000
5/12/2003	DPW Bldg. Repairs (ART 18)	28,000				28,000
5/12/2003	Surface Drains (ART 19)	200,000				200,000
5/12/2003	Roadways Rehab. (ART 20)	100,000				100,000
5/12/2003	Library Extrard. Repairs (ART 21)	60,000				60,000
5/12/2003	GIS Computer Installation (ART 22)	200,000				200,000
5/12/2003	Water Sys. Equip (ART 23)	250,000				250,000
5/12/2003	Landfill Pollution Mitigation (ART 24)	925,000				925,000
5/12/2003	School Vehicles (ART 25)	75,000				75,000
5/12/2003	W.H.S.W.M.Sch. Roads/Parking (ART 26)	50,000				50,000
	Total	\$	52,904,000	\$ 42,129,670	\$ 55,000	\$ 7,690,000 \$ 41,922,670

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*Flag donated to the Town by the Weston-Wayland Rotary Club*

WESTON - DIRECTORY *(continued)*

**TOWN HALL** Town House Road, P. O. Box 378, Weston, MA 02493

(781) 893-7320 Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

*All departments marked \* are located in Town Hall, Town House Road*

<b>Planning Board*</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext. 321 FAX: (781) 529-0112	<b>Town Clerk*</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext. 301, 303 FAX: (781) 891-3697
<b>Police Department</b>	<b>911 or (781) 893-4800</b>	<b>Town Engineer</b>	(781) 893-1263 ext. 16 FAX: (781) 899-5690
Other business	(781) 893-4803 FAX: (781) 893-7687 180 Boston Post Road By-Pass (Route 20)		190 Boston Post Road By-Pass
<b>Public Works</b>	(781) 893-1263 FAX: (781) 899-5690 190 Boston Post Road By-Pass (Route 20)	<b>Town Manager*</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext. 305, 308 FAX: (781) 891-3697
<b>Recreation</b>	(781) 529-0203 FAX: (781) 529-0202 Weston Community Center, 20 Alphabet Lane	<b>Treasurer and Collector*</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext. 315 FAX (781) 529-0106
<b>Board of Selectmen*</b> (c/o Town Manager)	(781) 893-7320 ext. 308 FAX: (781) 891-3697	<b>Veterans' Agent</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext 308 or c/o Police Department (781) 893-4803
<b>Solid Waste and Recycling DPW</b>	(781) 899-2350 <i>Or call DPW@ (781) 893-1263 off Church Street at Kendal Green RR Station 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.-Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat.</i>	<b>Water Department,</b>	(781) 893-2363 74 Warren Avenue FAX: (781) 899-2700
<b>Town Accountant*</b>	(781) 893-7320 ext. 310 FAX (781) 529-0106	<b>Youth Counselor</b>	(781) 891-7617 Weston High School, 444 Wellesley Street

\*\*\*\*\*

**United States Post Office** (800) 275-8777  
25 Colpitts Road

**School Department** All Departments, All Schools (781) 899-0620

Public School News Line .....	(781) 529-8092	Country School	(781) 529-8020, (781) 529-8021
No School Announcements .....	(781) 529-8092	Woodland School.	(781) 529-8100, (781) 529-8101
Superintendent,	(781) 529-8080	Field School .....	(781) 529-8000, (781) 529-8001
Business Office	(781) 529-8082	Middle School .....	(781) 529-8060, (781) 529-8061
89 Wellesley Street (Case House)		High School	(781) 529-8030, (781) 529-8031
School Transportation,	(781) 529-8055	METCO Office	(781) 529-8007
456 Wellesley Street		Safe Arrival	(781) 529-8025

TOWN OF WESTON  
P.O. Box 378  
*Weston, MA 02493-0002*

LOCAL HISTORY  
WESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
87 SCHOOL STREET  
WESTON, MA 02493-2541

POSTAL PATRON  
WESTON, MA 02493-0002

BULK RATE  
U.S.POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BOSTON, MA  
PERMIT NO. 55193